2 CUC supervisors, WSR principal receive ESGR award. PAGE 6
CNMI's King-Hinds to chair APP conference. PAGE 7

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Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXI, Issue No. 211

MONDAY OCTOBER 25, 2021
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2 more test positive; 1 hospitalized
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TWILIGHT TIME MARK FARMER
The always sensational Saipan sunset and the prepositioned ships in the Saipan Lagoon provide a spectacular foreground to this group of local dancers seen here practicing a traditional dance during the night market held Tuesday evenings at the Mariana Lighthouse.

AT A GLANCE

As of 7:03pm, Oct. 24, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population Fully Vaccinated: **83.3%**

Days since last community transmission: **214**

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	30,393
Fully Vaccinated:	29,765
Moderna	
Initiated:	4,885
Fully Vaccinated:	4,725
Janssen	
Fully Vaccinated:	825

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	17,379	164*	17,543
Recovered	14,798	288	15,086
Active	2,066	164	2,230
Deaths	226	1	227

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	289	2	291
Traced via Travel Screening	252	2	254
Traced via Community Screening	37	0	37
Deaths	3	0	3

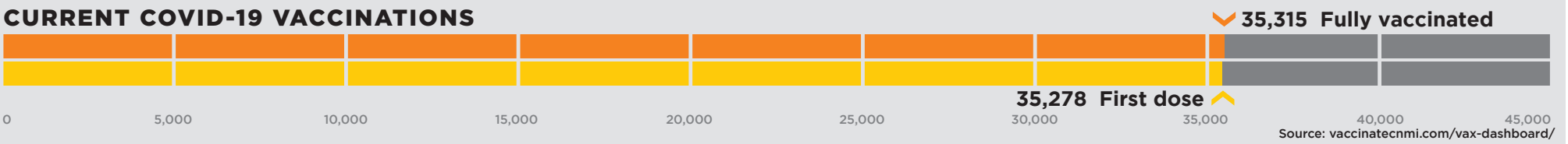
*10/24=35; 10/23=36; 10/22=93
Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., https://www.vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

CURRENT COVID-19 VACCINATIONS



Source: vaccinatecnmi.com/vax-dashboard/

INSIDE

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Hyatt Regency Saipan plays host to a virtual performance of a traditional Japanese art form.
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LOCAL
The NMI Museum grounds was teeming with people that joined the "Wave, Walk & Roll."
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LOCAL
The third annual underwater pumpkin carving contest is happening on Saturday,
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Local

Kilili to seek re-election under the Democratic Party

Delegate says he has never seen this level of corruption in the CNMI govt

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) will be seeking his 8th term as the CNMI's delegate in the U.S. House of Representatives under the NMI Democratic Party.

Sablan, who is in the U.S. mainland right now, disclosed during a Zoom conference over the weekend that he already submitted, via email, to NMI Democratic Party chair Nola K. Hix, his intent to seek re-election as a Democrat.

"Please consider this my official notice of my intent and please let me know what further I need to do to be consistent with the party's rules and by-laws," Sablan told Hix.

Hix forwarded Sablan's email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Sablan, 66, said he will be campaigning to support the Democratic Party's candidates for 2022 election.

Hix said the party is ready to entertain Sablan's request to run as their nominee.

Sablan said after over months of weighing the pros and cons and looking at every angle, he and his wife, Andrea, eventually decided that he would be more useful to the people in the Marianas if he will continue doing this job as a delegate.

"After all, our people invested…over a decade [in me] to represent them in the U.S. Congress," he said.

Sablan

Sablan said he ran as independent in his previous terms but he has caucused with Democrats in Congress. He said was a Democrat when he was with the CNMI Legislature and even chaired the Democratic Party before.

Sablan said he read in the newspaper about an announcement from the Democratic Party that those who are interested to run under the party, including the delegate's position, should submit their letter of intent. He said he sent an email to Hix informing her of his intent to seek the nomination of the Democratic Party for the position of delegate.

"If the party should allow me, should nominate me as their candidate, and I will be very honored to run as a Democrat, and then I'll work with the party, work with the candidates, and hope to get as many winning seats as we can," Sablan said.

He said the level of corruption that's going on at the present time in the Commonwealth government is just unacceptable. "We need to face this matter, we need to address it and address is in a much more forceful way," he said.

Sablan said people should understand that they pay for the cost of corruption.

He said there are many things that are coming out of the House of Representatives Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee's hearings.

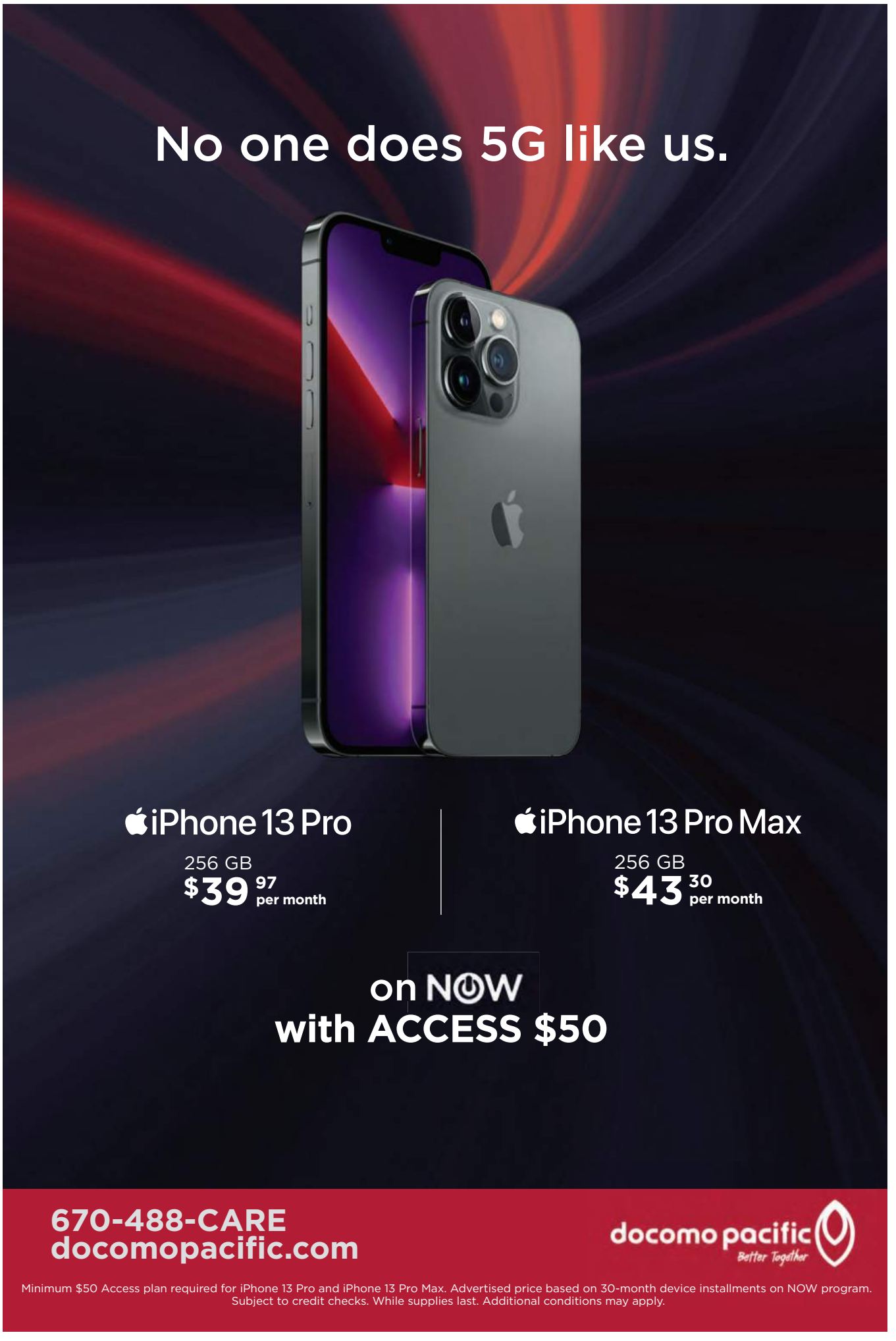
"It's just really, really disappointing. I've never seen this level of corruption," the delegate said.

The JGO Committee is investigating Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' expenditures of public funds and travels.

Sablan reiterated his recent statement that many people see the corruption and yet very few have been able to say "stop."

"Enough is enough," Sablan said.

In 2008, Sablan became CNMI's first elected delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives. He is currently serving his seventh term.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Torres says he respects Palacios' move to run as governor in 2022

Governor says he also respects decision of 3 Republican lawmakers to attend Palacios-Apatang's declaration to run

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said Friday that he respects Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios' and Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang's decision to run as governor and lieutenant governor, respectively, in the November 2022 election.

Torres

"I wish them both luck," said Torres during his regular radio press briefing.

He said he always respects Palacios and the office that he holds and that they will continue to work together for the betterment of the community.

Torres had already announced his decision to seek re-election with Sen. Vinnie Vinson Sablan (R-Saipan) as his running mate under the NMI Republican Party.

Asked if his relationship with Palacios will be affected after the latter's declaration to run against him, Torres said he has a role to do as the elected governor. "I need to move forward and continue doing what I've done in the beginning, prioritizing our community [and] trying to bring in investments for our economy. That has not changed," he said.

Torres said the administration will continue to work and make the lives of the people in the CNMI better. "So my role and my dedication to the community, my obligation has not changed. And I'll continue to work even harder to make sure that we'll make our people's lives a lot better," he said.

The governor said he has gone through this—running for a seat in the House of Representatives, then the Senate, then as lieutenant governor, then as governor. Torres said he has always done his best, dedicating his energy to serve the people.

He said his leadership has been tested numerous times, from super typhoons Soudelor and Yutu, to Typhoon Mangkhut and now the COVID-19 pandemic.

The governor said he does

See TORRES on Page 4

2 test positive; 1 hospitalized

Guam COVID-related death toll now 227

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

One COVID-19 patient in the CNMI has been hospitalized and that two incoming travelers have tested positive for COVID-19, bringing the CNMI's total to 291, according to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. over the weekend.

In Guam, its Joint Information Center reported Friday the island's 227th COVID-19-related death.

CHCC reported Sunday that one patient, who was confirmed positive for COVID-19 last week, has been hospitalized. The patient is currently receiving treatment and is being monitored, and CHCC said Sunday that no further information will be disclosed to preserve patient privacy.

CHCC also reported that the CNMI's two most recent positives were identified by travel screening and confirmed positive through arrival testing on Oct. 22 and Oct. 23, respectively. Both have since been quarantined and monitored and CHCC's contact tracing team has reaching out to those who were in closest contact with the two individuals.

In Guam, the island's 227th COVID-19-related death was an unvaccinated 77-year-old female with underlying health conditions. She tested positive for COVID-19 on Oct. 16 and was pronounced dead at the Guam Regional Medical City on Oct. 22.

As of Oct. 23, the JIC reported that there are currently 54 individuals in Guam who are hospitalized with COVID-19. Of the 54, 33 are unvaccinated, 19 are vaccinated, and two are ineligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

Man arrested for alleged nuisance

On Monday, Oct. 18, 2021, at about 9:08am, the CNMI Department of Public Safety received a call reporting an alleged quarantine violator at the Kanoa Resort in Chalan Kanoa.

A transport and tracking team from the COVID-19 task force was immediately sent to check on the suspect's apar tment. The team was notified that Butterfield left his apartment in his vehicle a gay Honda SUV. All units were notified.

A nearby unit spotted the suspect's vehicle in the Chinatown area heading toward Middle Road. An officer conducted a violator stop on the vehicle. A COVID-19 task force personnel approached the suspect's driver-side window, but the suspect refused to comply.

The suspect exited his vehicle and walked toward the COVID-19 transport vehicle and sat down in the parking lot. When officers asked the suspect to stand he refused and proceeded to lay down in the middle of the parking lot. The suspect continued to refuse to comply.

Officers then arrested David Butterfield for nuisance. He was brought to Kanoa Resort for clearance before being transported to the Department of Corrections to be booked and detained.

The CNMI Department of Public Safety highly encourages the public to call 911 anytime to report a crime, emergency, or disturbance. Our officers are here to keep you and your family safe. ***(PR)***

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GUAM & COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
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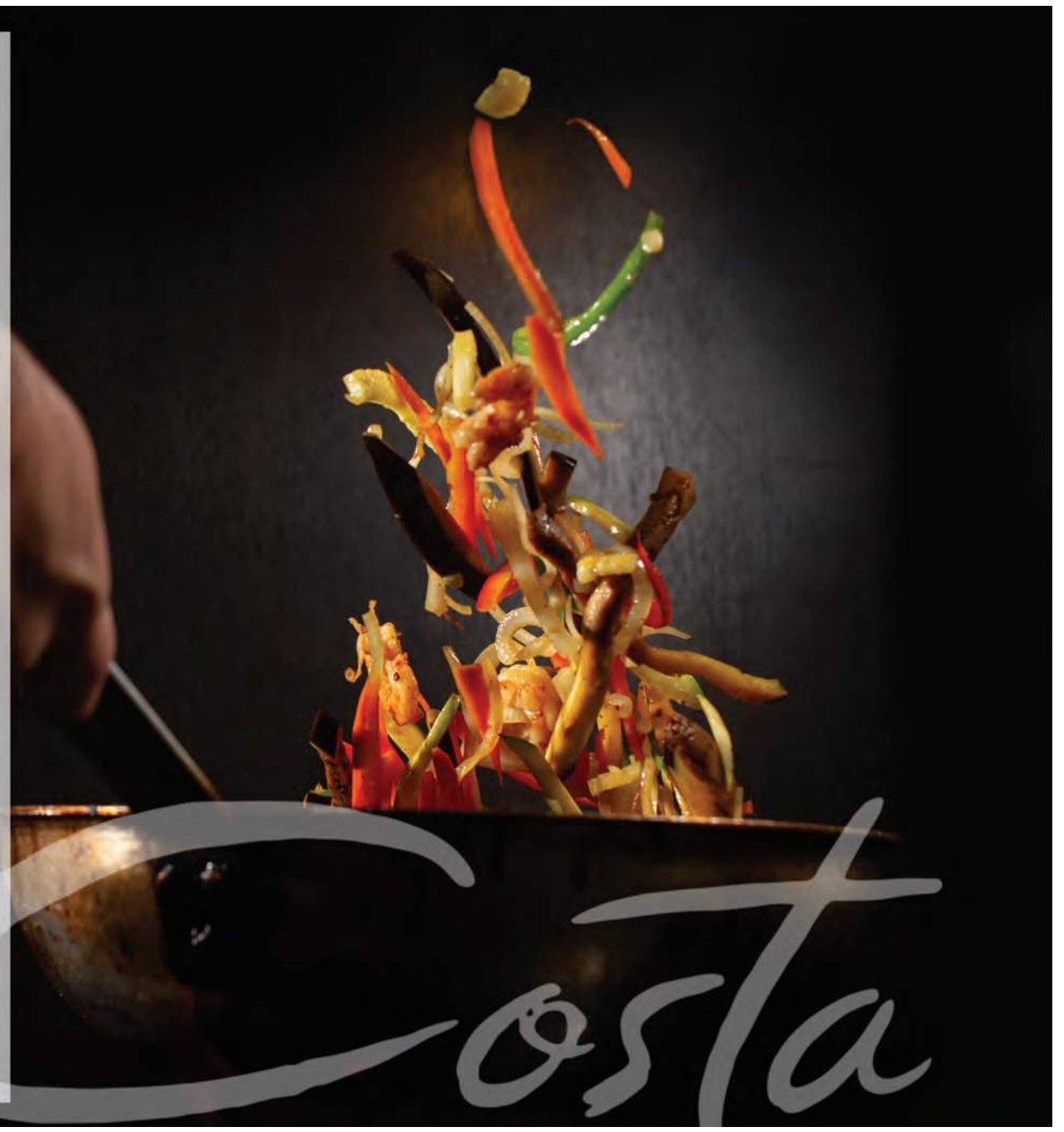

Korea bookings strong, more airlines reaching out to fly to NMI

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's exposure in South Korea as a safe destination has resulted in so many bookings that airlines have been reaching out to fly more or have new flights to the Marianas, according to Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla M. Iakopo.

In a presentation last week on the Korea CNMI Tourism Resumption Investment Plan or TRIP Program before the Commerce and Tourism Committee chaired by Rep. Denita Yangetmai (D-Saipan), Iakopo said that beginning Sept. 13, travel agencies in Korea began to see bookings through December pick up rapidly

Iakopo said T-way Airlines wants to start flying twice a week versus once.

She said two airlines who are not even a part of TRIP have expressed their interest and intent to start flights: Air Pusan and Air Seoul. She said a couple of weeks ago, Jin Air also expressed interest.

TRIP, which was implemented in July 2021, is a collaborative creation of the MVA, the administration, key travel industry stakeholders, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., COVID-19 Task Force, and other agencies. It provides financial incentives to jumpstart and gradually revive the Marianas tourism economy.

Iakopo said because of the last-minute confirmation of the hybrid-quarantine resort/hotel on Saipan, and other changes, travel agencies and airlines were not able to develop and sell packages early enough for July or even August in 2021. Therefore, on Aug. 11, 2021, the MVA board decided to extend TRIP to Dec. 31, 2021 instead of ending after only eight weeks, as initially planned.

"Moving to September and beyond, once these decisions were confirmed, beginning around Sept. 13 travel agencies began to see bookings… pick up rapidly," Iakopo said.

She said vaccinations in Korea are increasing, with 71% of the population fully vaccinated, or 40 million people vaccinated. She said 91% have already received their first vaccine shot.

"Furthermore, none, I repeat, none of the visitors we have received from South Korea via TRIP have tested positive for COVID-19," said Iakopo, adding that this is because the requirements are more strict than passengers arriving via Guam.

She said their biggest challenge at this time is that demand is so high as there are so many people wanting to come to the Marianas. "Travel agencies are telling us there are not enough air seats with three airlines flying once a week to accommodate everyone," Iakopo said.

She said their second challenge is that there are not enough rooms at the hybrid-resort quarantine facility to accommodate everyone who wants to come.

Man found guilty of shattering CPA cop's window

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man was found guilty last week of shattering a Commonwealth Ports Authority officer's car window following a bench trial at the Superior Court.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph Camacho found Shanguo Zhang, 43, guilty of count one of vandalism for shattering a ports police vehicle window. However, the court dismissed the disturbing the peace charge filed against him.

Meanwhile, Camacho also revoked Zhang's probation for a previous case after he was found in violation of his release conditions where he pleaded guilty to spraying paint on a police K-9 vehicle parked at the Department of Public Safety central office.

Camacho imposed a sentence of three months on Zhang and remanded him to the custody of CNMI Marshals who transported him to the Department of Corrections to start serving his sentence.

The court ordered Zhang be brought back to court on Dec. 15 at 10am for his sentencing.

According to court documents, Zhang, a citizen of the People's Republic of China, is a habitual offender, with most of his cases involving vandalism and disturbing the peace.

Zhang is one of those individuals who holds a daily protest against the Chinese Communist Party at the Civic Center across the judicial building in Susupe.

Back on June 15, Zhang, allegedly destroyed or vandalized public property belonging to the Commonwealth Ports Authority Ports Police Department by breaking a vehicle's window by hitting it with a rock.

Back in March, Camacho sentenced Zhang to serve six months in prison, with the first 15 days to be served day for day without the possibility of parole, early release, weekend release or other similar programs after the defendant pleaded guilty to tampering with a vehicle.

Camacho gave Zhang 12 days' credit for time served, but the defendant was also placed on a six-month probation after serving his sentence.

In July 2020, Zhang was arrested for criminal mischief and disturbing the peace after damaging the glass doors at the governor's office.

Tropical depression forms

The National Weather Service in Guam reported a tropical depression now named 25W that formed west of the Marianas but poses no threat to the CNMI.

The newly formed system was last seen 460 miles west-southwest of Saipan and 370 miles west of Guam and was last seen moving away from the Marianas.

Tropical depression 25W will continue to develop and could become a tropical storm but the system does not pose any direct threat to the Marianas or Yap State.

Tropical depression 25W is moving west-northwest at 13 mph and It is expected to make a turn toward the north-northwest with little change in forward movement today.

The system carries maximum sustained winds of up to 35 mph and is forecast to intensify over the next several days before becoming a tropical storm. ***(Kimberly B. Esmores)***

500 Sails, NMC, IAO, CCVI to develop Maritime Training Center

The CNMI will soon have a Cultural Maritime Training Center, thanks to a grant award from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Administration for Native Americans.

Key partners in the CMTC are the CNMI Indigenous Affairs Office, who provides 500 Sails with its boatyard in Lower Base and the Guma Sakman in Oleai, and the Northern Marianas College's Community Development Institute, which will provide a Certificate of Achievement for the Traditional Canoe Fabrication and Maintenance track, and Chamolinian Cultural Village Inc./Canoe Federation traditional navigators who provide instructional support in sailing, voyaging, and navigation.

"We are excited to partner with 500 Sails and other agencies and organizations for this project and look forward to building maritime training activities and capacity among our residents," said NMC president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero.

The three-year Social and Economic Development Strategies grant provides program funding for 500 Sails' Taotao Tåsi–Maritime Career Pathways project that will provide new job training and professional development opportunities through learning tracks that prepare native jobseekers for successful entry into maritime professions.

These include: Traditional Canoe Fabrication and Maintenance; Traditional Canoe Sailing and Voyaging; Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping; Operator Uninspected Passenger Vessel (6-Pack License); Able Seaman; Merchant Marine Credential; Water Safety Instructor; Lifeguard Certification and Recertification; and Traditional Navigation (developed and taught by Carolinian Navigators of the Weriyaeng school of traditional navigation).

"Taotao Tåsi is Chamorro for 'people of the ocean,'" 500 Sails executive director Pete Perez said. "Our islands were once known for its people who excelled in swimming, canoe building, and sailing. It takes no stretch of the imagination to see that a community with a deep and historic affinity to the ocean, that built ingenious sailing canoes and voyaged to distant islands using their own system of navigation, would likely have continued to thrive on the water today had their maritime practices not been disrupted by colonial rulers. The project aims to establish a strong native presence on the water again, in maritime professions that are a natural fit for islanders."

For more information on how you can enroll in the upcoming maritime classes call (670) 323-7245 or email Ross Manglona, director of the Cultural Maritime Training Center at rmanglona@500sails.org. ***(PR)***

'No Tricks, Just Treats' at the NMI Museum on Halloween

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Rotary Club of Saipan and Rotaract Club of Saipan, in collaboration with the NMI Museum of History & Culture, will be hosting a Halloween event called "No Tricks, Just Treats" on Oct. 31 from 5pm to 9pm on NMI Museum grounds. The event will feature a movie night inside the museum, various live performances, contests, and more.

Joann T. Aquino, who is director of community service for the Rotary Club of Saipan, hopes to see the community come out and enjoy the Halloween festivities. "We've coordinated with several non-governmental organizations, businesses, agencies, and programs to pass out candies and treats from the newly constructed huts on the NMI Museum grounds," she said in an email message Thursday.

There will be many festivities inside and outside the NMI Museum, Aquino said. There will be a *Night at the Museum* movie night indoors, while there will be contests and live music and dance performances outdoors.

Contests include a pumpkin pie eating contest and a "Spooktacular Costume Contest." Live entertainment for the night includes dance performances by the Saipan Music & Dance Studio, live music by Marvin Deleon Guerrero as MG Muzik Productions, and magic acts from magicians Neil Fama and Joel Salvosa.

There will be an inflated bounce house, slide, and "over a dozen spooktacular outdoor inflatables" ranging from 5 feet to 12 feet and some as long as 10 feet for eventgoers to enjoy and take pictures with, Aquino added.

Happening at the same time across the street at Sugar King Park is the Saipan Mayor's Office's own Halloween event, and Aquino invites the community to visit that event as well.

"I would also like to encourage families and children to visit the Sugar King Park across the street from the museum to get some candies from [the Marianas Visitors Authority] and the Saipan Mayor's Office, check out the various food vendors that will be opened that evening, as well as a mini haunted tent provided by MVA," said Aquino.

"We look forward to providing a safe and fun environment for everyone. And as always, we encourage everyone to please continue to practice to wear their mask, wash their hands and watch their distance," she added.

In her email Thursday, Aquino thanked the event's many sponsors and said the participating businesses are: the Tan Siu Lin Foundation, Exquisite Productions, Stellar Marianas, Youth Empowerment Solutions CNMI, Triple J Saipan, Paradise Dental, Dice Pacific Professional Solutions LLC, SAAR-Substance Abuse Addiction Rehabilitation Program, NMC Office of Student Leadership, NMC Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, CNMI Women's Affairs Office, Northern Marianas Against Domestic & Sexual Violence, the Joeten Kiyu Public Library Bookmobile, and T-Project CNMI.

TORRES

From Page 2

not want to tell stories of the good things that he has done, but since he's being asked for example during this pandemic, people can look at all the videos.

"Who's been at the airport? Who's been at the alternate care site? Who's been every day out there, while others, either your elected officials or in what capacity that you hold?" he asked. Torres said people don't see some of these elected officials "when the tough gets going."

"So my dedication to our community has not changed. My dedication to our community is to bring back a better life for everyone, bring back the economy and we'll continue to work," he said.

Torres said his energy will always be there for the people and that his love for the people has only grown stronger.

Asked for comment about Palacios' and Apatang's campaign slogan of "Rebuilding Trust," the governor said he respects their slogan.

"We have an election to run and that's their slogan and I leave it for that at this point," Torres said.

As for the three incumbent Republican lawmakers' presence during the Palacios-Apatang's official declaration to run, Torres said throughout his political career he's always been a Republican and that he's respects the decision of the three lawmakers.

Reps. Blas Jonathan T. Attao, Ralph N. Yumul, and John Paul Sablan, all Republicans, attended Palacios-Apatang's official announcement.

Torres said all have decisions in their lives to make. "We're all elected. We all have the integrity to hold. And that decision that they make has to be respected," he said.

The governor said he never wavered on the Republican Party even when he was asked to run as lieutenant governor for the late Eloy S. Inos, who was a member of the Covenant Party at that time.

"I stayed as a Republican. Throughout my political career, I've always been a Republican," said Torres, adding that he will continue to be a proud Republican.

He said they will need to work together for the betterment for the community as there are a lot of issues that need to be addressed. The governor said he hopes that they can continue to work together as they are elected by the people.

Cui may face sanctions, including possible incarceration

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC chair Cui Lijie faces sanctions—including up to possible incarceration—for allegedly lying during a deposition back in February.

Last week, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona said she would take into advisement the plaintiffs' motion to impose sanctions on Cui, including incarceration, in the case involving seven construction workers.

Manglona scheduled a status conference on the matter for Nov. 5 at 8:30am. She noted that if she issues a written order prior to the status conference, the status conference will be vacated.

One of the lawyers representing the seven construction workers, Aaron Halegua, called for sanctions against Cui, including incarceration, until she complies with the court's previous contempt order because Cui allegedly violated the court's previous contempt order and provided false testimony.

In a video clip of Cui's deposition back in February that was entered as evidence during last week's hearing, Cui was allegedly caught denying she had a cellphone on her.

When asked about having a cellphone on her, Cui was shown on the video stating that she did not bring her cellphone. Later, a cellphone was heard ringing from Cui's purse. She then asked to be excused for a restroom break. Upon her return she was asked if the cell phone that rang was hers, but she denied owning the cell phone claiming that it belonged to her interpreter, Howyo Chi.

Cui is a third-party witness in the lawsuit of seven construction workers against IPI and its former contractor and subcontractor, MCC International and Gold Mantis Construction Decoration, both of which have already settled with the plaintiffs.

The plaintiffs, who have accused IPI and its subcontractors of labor violations and human trafficking, include Tianming Wang, Dong Han, Yongjun Meng, Liangcai Sun, Youli Wang, Qingchun Xu, and Duxin Yan. They are represented by Halegua and Bruce Berline.

Back in May, Manglona entered a default judgment in favor of the seven workers in the amount of $5,430,595.58 plus post-judgment interest and attorneys' fees against IPI.

To date, the plaintiffs claim the judgment remains unsatisfied in the amount of $5,430,595.58, plus post-judgment interest and attorneys' fees meaning IPI has yet to make a single payment to the plaintiffs.

On Aug. 26, 2021, Manglona found Cui in contempt of court anew for failing to comply with a previous preservation order regarding Electronically Stored Information or ESI that she created or used, including emails, and ESI data sent or received by others on her behalf.

Because the $5.4-million default judgment in favor of the plaintiffs remained unsatisfied, all the ESI data held by the former IPI chair remain relevant to the proceedings.

500 soldiers from USS *Frank Cable* to set foot on Saipan after quarantine

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

About 500 soldiers aboard USS *Frank Cable*, an Emory S. Land-class submarine tender that is docked at the Port of Saipan, are ready to set foot on the island after a five-day quarantine on the ship, according to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and CNMI COVID-19 Task Force chair Warren Villagomez on Friday.

Speaking at his regular radio news briefing, Torres said there are two vessels in the Saipan Lagoon and both will be here for a few weeks. Torres and Villagomez, however, only named the USS *Frank Cable* and not the submarine.

The governor said there are some soldiers who will be in the area for at least a week or so.

Torres also noted that beginning Nov. 8, 2021, the U.S. government will be lifting some restrictions for foreign travelers who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Villagomez confirmed that this is pursuant to President Joe Biden's recent directive.

The Biden administration announced that the travel restrictions the U.S. imposed because of the pandemic will be partially lifted for 33 countries on Nov. 8. The new policy, however, will require foreign national travelers from these counties to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Villagomez said the 500 soldiers from USS *Frank Cable* are on quarantine on the ship and are just awaiting their fifth day COVID-19 test results.

As soon as they are cleared and safe, they will be setting foot on the island and spending some R&R (rest and recreation) on Saipan, he added.

"That's good for the island's economy," he said.

Villagomez said all DOD personnel that go to Tinian are also made to go through the CNMI COVID-Task Force process.

Torres said there's a protocol that needs to be followed for people coming in as residents or for business and tourist purposes, whether they are vaccinated, unvaccinated, or on a travel bubble program.

"There is a system for you," the governor said, adding that it is important to follow those guidelines.

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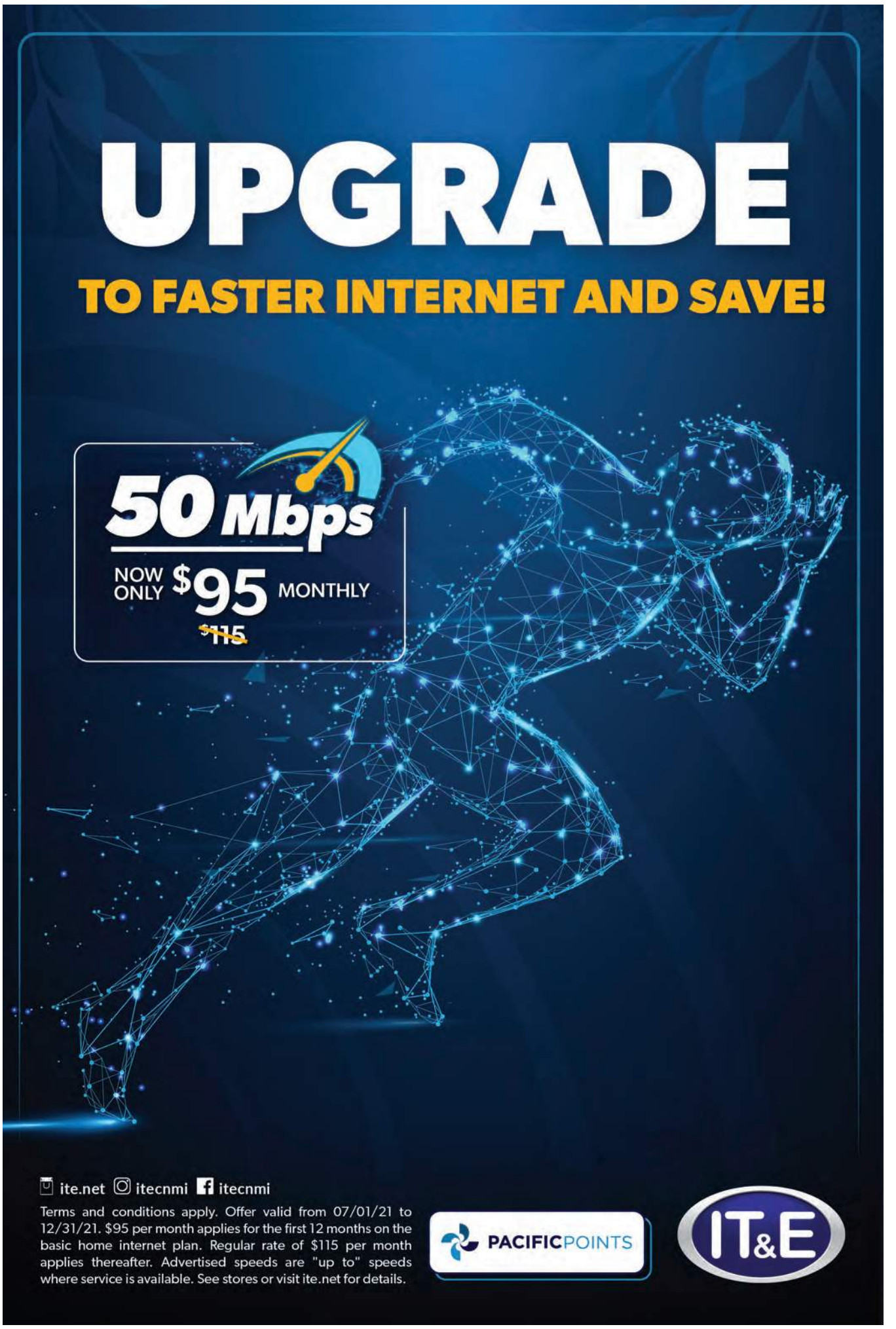
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IT&E

2 CUC supervisors, WSR principal receive ESGR award

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve honored three individuals in the CNMI last Thursday by presenting each of them with the ESGR "Patriotic Employer" award, which recognizes employers who support employee participation in the National Guard and Reserve.

The ESGR team, led by ESGR CNMI Area Committee chair Dr. Rita Sablan, presented the awards to Joseph Muña and Betty Terlaje from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and William S. Reyes Elementary School principal Lynn Sharon O. Mendiola.

Muña and Terlaje received their awards at CUC's main office's conference room at the Joeten Dandan Building, while Mendiola received her award in her office at WSR.

Terlaje, who was nominated to receive the award by longtime CUC employee and U.S. Army Reservist Robert Lieto, said that Lieto was actually named CUC employee of the year last January and described him as a "hard worker and go-getter."

"I appreciate Robert's acknowledgment, and if there's anything more that we can do for him, he knows he can [visit us] and let us know. ...Robert's been [at CUC] for 20 years, he's a go-getter and gets the work done. I'd like to thank Robert [for nominating CUC], but I'd also like to say that it's Robert who really deserves the recognition. …At the end of the day, you deserve recognition," she said.

Mendiola, on the other hand, was nominated for the award by Roque Pulido, who is currently a registrar at the elementary school and is a U.S. Army Reservist. His nomination of Mendiola was read aloud prior to the award being presented.

Pulido wrote that Mendiola hired him this year to work as a registrar, where his role is to process student registrations for the upcoming school year. Processing typically takes place in the summer, which coincided with Pulido's USAR unit's annual training.

While he was off-island for a little over a month to attend the training, Mendiola and WSR vice principal Jocelyn Manibusan "without any complaints took on the weight of my job," Pulido wrote. Pulido added that Mendiola regularly kept in touch with his fiancé, who is also employed at WSR as a kindergarten teacher, while he was off-island.

Pulido lauded Mendiola for being accommodating with his need to go off-island for training, and for recognizing him and other past service members who are part of WSR staff during military holidays and yearly events. For the reasons above, "she should be considered for higher awards," he wrote.

Muña, Terlaje, and Mendiola all received framed plaques and commemorative pins. Besides Sablan, the ESGR team was also composed of ESGR CNMI area chair emeritus in charge of employer outreach Rose Igitol and ESGR volunteer Joann Aquino.

The "Patriotic Employer" award recognizes employers who have contributed to "national security and protecting liberty by supporting employee participation in America's National Guard and Reserve Force." Employers must be nominated by an employee who is a National Guard or Military Reserves member to be considered for the award.

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Traditional Japanese performing art takes center stage at Hyatt

Rakugo performer Katsura Sunshine tells a story during last Saturday's "Online Rakugo" at the Hyatt Regency Saipan Ballroom. While unable to perform in person, Sunshine performed live several comedic stories via Zoom. Sunshine's performance was displayed on the ballroom's multiple projector screens. JOSHUA SANTOS

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

An audience of 160 converged at the Hyatt Regency Saipan ballroom last Saturday for the virtual performance of a traditional Japanese art form called *rakugo* that dates back to more than 400 years ago during the Edo period

The event, called "Online *Rakugo*" and made possible through a collaboration between the Consular Office of Japan in Saipan and the Japanese Society of the Northern Mariana Islands, featured the online performance of *rakugo* performer Katsura Sunshine.

While unable to perform in person, Sunshine performed live several comedic stories via Zoom. Sunshine's performance was displayed on the ballroom's multiple projector screens.

Rakugo features stories with humor endings told by one person who will often play many characters and advance the story through hand gestures and many other physical movements.

Consul Ono Kazuhiko, who gave brief remarks before Sunshine's performance, said his appreciation for *rakugo* comes from its universal appeal and relatability.

"There are wide varieties of comedies throughout the world, but in most cases, the sense of humor is much more accommodating to [a] certain region. [For] example, the sense of humor in stand-up comedy in the U.S. may not be the same as in the United Kingdom, and vice versa. ...Rakugo covers [a] wide variety of audiences, regardless of their origin as the humorous tales and comic storytelling is based on everyday lives of ordinary people," said Ono.

Saipan Tribune was told Saturday by Japanese consulate staff member James Sakamoto that around 170 people came for the event, mostly students from Kagman High School, Mount Carmel School, Marianas High School, Grace Christian Academy, and the Japanese Society School of the Northern Mariana Islands. These students are either members of Japanese clubs in their schools, or have expressed an interest in learning more about Japanese culture and the Japanese language.

During the question-and-answer at the end of his performance, a member of the audience asked what wish Sunshine make for his *daruma* doll, which sat behind him while he performed. A *daruma* doll is a hollow, round, traditional Japanese doll that is a symbol of good luck and is sometimes sold with both eyes unpainted. The doll's owner would then paint one eye after making a wish or deciding on a goal that the doll will help the owner achieve, and paint the other eye when the owner fulfills that goal or wish.

Sunshine's *daruma* doll had one eye painted. He told the audience that his wish is to do a *rakugo* special for Netflix and he jestingly urged young members of the audience with connections to Netflix to put in a good word for him. If his Netflix aspirations do fall through, Sunshine said he would like to fly out to Saipan to perform live and paint the other eye.

Sunshine also shared during the question-and-answer that he was performing in Broadway in New York City for six months before the COVID-19 pandemic hit and that he will resume touring and performing in the early part of next year where he will regularly go back-and-forth and performing in New York City and London.

Sunshine, whose real name is Gregory Robic, is a Canadian who initially went to Japan in 1999 to study *noh*, another form of traditional Japanese theater. In 2008 Robic became an apprentice for three years under *rakugo* master Katsura Bunshi, who gave him the stage name Katsura Sunshine. After his apprenticeship, Robic embarked on a five-year world tour performing as Katsura Sunshine in five continents and 15 countries.

CNMI's King-Hinds to chair APP conference

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority's Kimberlyn King-Hinds is set to chair her first Association of Pacific Ports conference as its recently elected president.

King-Hinds left the CNMI last Friday to travel to San Diego, California for the 107th annual APP conference where she will serve as the conference's chair for the first time.

In an interview before her departure, King-Hinds said she is honored and excited for this new opportunity not only to represent the CNMI, but to bring back knowledge that can be adopted by CPA to help weather out this pandemic.

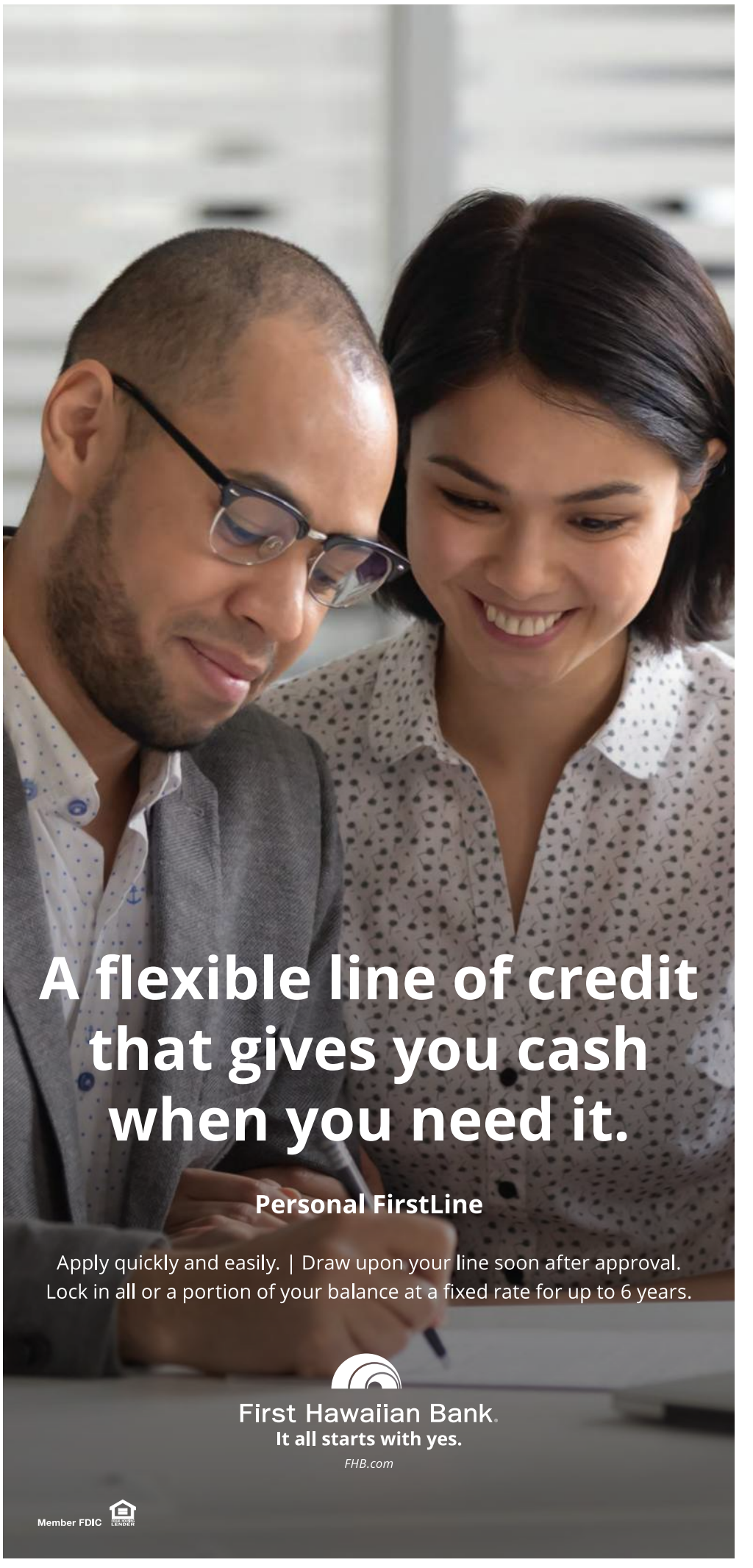
"It's an honor to represent CPA and the CNMI and I'm excited about the opportunity to see and explore what other ports are doing and how they are overcoming challenges related to the pandemic. I expect to learn and to build bridges in terms of relationships with folks who are in the industry and hopefully draw upon the knowledge to make improvements," she said.

King-Hinds

She is a bit nervous but is determined to do her best for the CNMI. "If I'm being honest, I'm also a little nervous. This is the first meeting I will be chairing as president of a regional association of ports from Canada to San Diego and as far west as Taiwan. In the back of my head, I'm always asking myself, 'What is a girl from Tinian doing here,' but I love the CNMI and I want to do the best and give the best of myself to our community and I'm grateful to be able to do that," she said.

According to a press release from APP back in August, King-Hinds took on the role following Ian Marr from the Port of Nanaimo.

"As chair of the CPA board of directors, King-Hinds has had a distinguished career balancing the practice of law in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and serving the public in various capacities. Currently in private practice addressing areas of family law, probate law and general civil litigation, King-Hinds is also currently the conflict counsel for the NMI Settlement Fund and legal counsel for the Tinian Mayor's Office. King-Hinds also currently devotes numerous hours serving the people of the CNMI on various government advisory boards and non-profit organizations," APP said.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Opinion

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER
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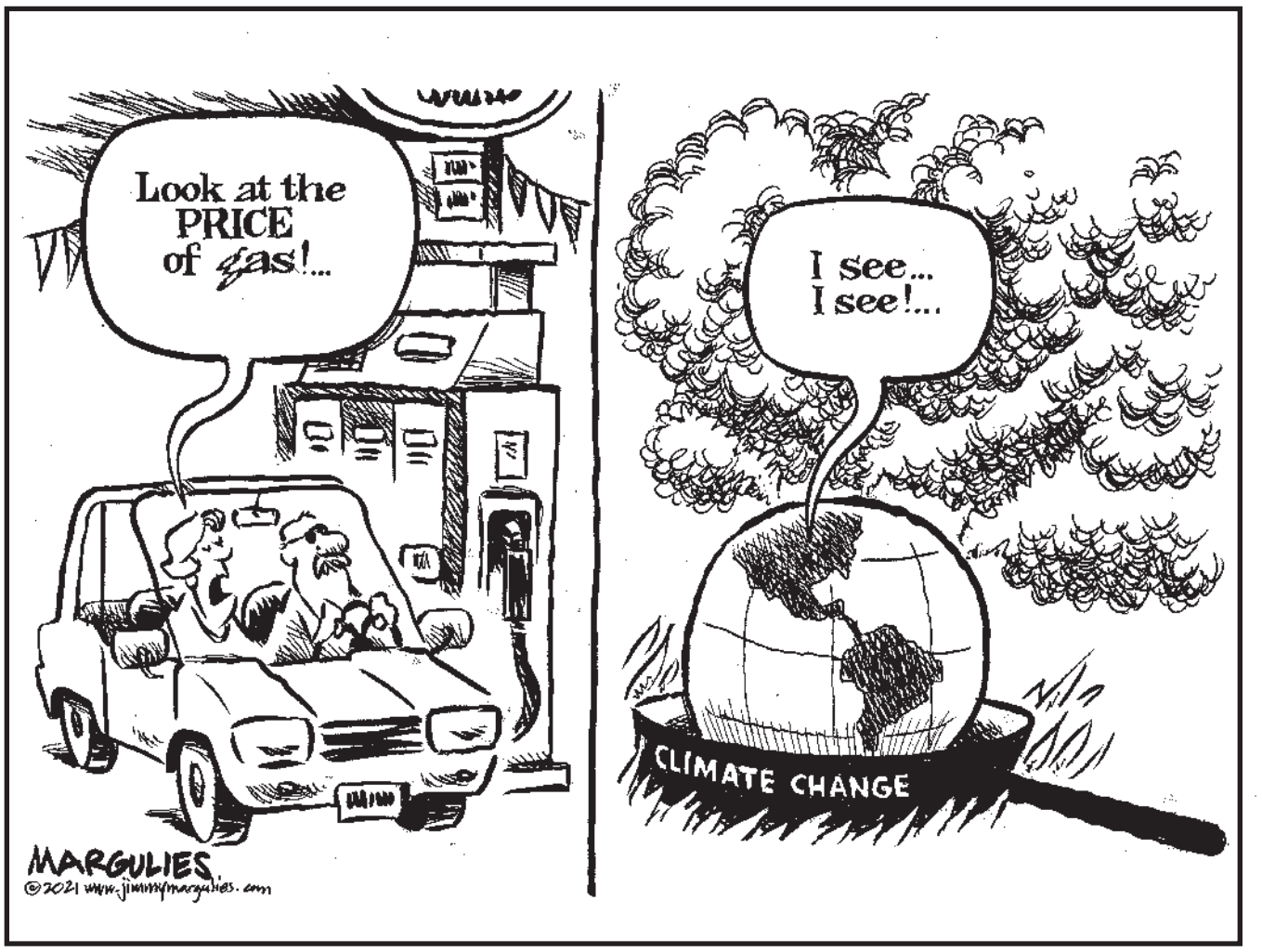

EDITORIAL

Biden should listen to business leaders on vaccines

Weeks after President Joe Biden announced his decree that roughly 80 million workers would need to get the COVID-19 vaccine or weekly testing, many details of that order are still unknown. Business groups are rightly pushing back against an undefined, invasive mandate that could exacerbate an already tight labor market.

This new federal order that would impact businesses with 100 or more employees places an unnecessary burden on employers to force workers to comply—or face stiff fines. In addition, the logistics of the mandatory testing and the costs involved remain a mystery.

This week, several chambers of commerce, led by the Michigan Chamber of Commerce, asked Biden to rethink his vaccine rules, and let states determine the best way to handle vaccinations.

Better yet, the government should just let the private sector figure this out for itself.

"I don't think anybody needs to be reminded of how divisive this is, and we're again going to be inserting employers right into the middle of that," said Andy Johnston of the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce.

Mandates in general seem to backfire. For instance, nearly all of the major airlines have instituted vaccine requirements for employees, following Biden's September announcement. And it hasn't gone well.

Delta Air Lines, on the other hand, is taking a gentler approach. It's the only U.S. carrier that has said it won't enforce a vaccine mandate. Employees seem to be responding positively. The company says more than 90% of its workforce has received the vaccine, and that percentage is expected to rise.

Biden has tasked the U.S. Labor Department's Occupational Health and Safety Administration to issue rarely-used "emergency temporary standards," which sidestep the formal rule-making process and Congress. The rules are before the Office of Management and Budget, and this review could take months.

In the meantime, 24 attorneys general sent a letter to Biden, challenging what they call an unlawful mandate.

"Your plan is disastrous and counterproductive," they wrote. "From a policy perspective, this edict is unlikely to win hearts and minds—it will simply drive further skepticism. And at least some Americans will simply leave the job market instead of complying. This will further strain an already-too-tight labor market, burdening companies and (therefore) threatening the jobs of even those who have received a vaccine."

Biden's vaccine mandate goes too far by interfering in private employers' decisions, and will likely only cement more opposition to the shots. The administration should listen to these businesses' concerns and back down.

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North Korea

RICK'S COLUMN
By RICK PEREZ
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rick Perez used to serve in the U.S. military and has work experiences in public policy research and public affairs. He is passionate about national security and geopolitics and runs a newsletter called Guam Affairs *at guamaffairs.substack.com. For questions or comments, contact Perez at rickp7839@gmail.com.*

There is a lot going on in North Korea these days. The DPRK continues to engage in a variety of missile tests intended to shoot down aircraft and attack land-based targets. The South Koreans have also been testing ballistic missiles launched from the sea.

Western nation and allied defense and intelligence chiefs gathered on the Korean Peninsula this week to discuss a variety of matters as a huge military weapons sales' events are taking place in South Korea as well.

Deep concerns remain over claims that China and/or North Korea have tested hypersonic type weapons. If and when China or Russia become able to successfully prove that they have the operational capability to use hypersonic weapons, it will mean that the United States and its colonial possessions in the Pacific such as Guam will become more vulnerable.

The U.S. doesn't have a defensive architecture in place and operational that can with 100% certainty destroy an incoming hypersonic weapon headed toward Guam or the CNMI.

Complex environment

The Korean Peninsula is ripe for a miscalculated event to take place because the North Koreans are heavily influenced by China and Russia. Things become further complicated because South Korea and the United States are strong allies and have similar and differing interests.

The United States, for example, lifted restrictions on South Korea's ability to develop missiles intended to carry conventional weapons. America also supports South Korea's efforts to launch its own inventories of military spy satellites. Previously the South Koreans relied 100% on U.S. spy agency resources for space-based intelligence information.

The U.S. has also been fully unable to use its national influence and power to sponsor real long-term trust and goodwill between the Japanese and South Korean governments due in part to historical events related to war and peace, and cultural differences and attitudes.

While miscalculations can occur, hot war can still be avoided

Basically, over the past 30 years or so, the United States has been engaged with North Korea in ways to stem nuclear weapons development and proliferation, with mixed results.

American political leaders have used sanctions to influence decisions made by North Korea's leaders such as food aid to persuade DPRK to move away from developing various facets of its nuclear program.

The United States remains a country that approaches the North Korean situation from a variety of angles. Both the Congress and the White House remain involved on matters tied to North Korea.

America has also used state designation labels and removals of these labels as well as the freezing of select cash funds to persuade North Korea to behave in certain ways.

The fundamental challenge that continues to plague both the United States and North Korea is more about human trust and verification of existing agreements in place.

At times the U.S. has gone at this alone and at other times, it has brought in several nations to assist with finding ways to incentivize the North Koreans to comply with existing nuclear weapons development frameworks that the DPRK has previously agreed to.

The paucity of trust is what has informed American actions toward North Korea because U.S. strategies in dealing with North Korea are both cooperative and coercive. To date, North Korea continues to move forward on its nuclear weapons program, to the frustration of the United States. The United States has responded by using its influence to push for multinational economic sanctions against North Korea.

There is no clear end in sight.

This geopolitical playing field remains complex

The U.S. has never operated out of a vacuum when it comes to matters related to North Korea. America has and continues to take into consideration the desires and interests of South Korea and understand the near area interests of both China and Russia with regards to how decisions made on North Korea by the United States will influence regional politics and

See NORTH on next page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Talking points

By JOSE S. DELA CRUZ
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Editor's Note: *The following are the talking points of the author is his recent appearance on the Marianas Agupa radio talk show.*

Our system of government

The CNMI is a part of the United States, and our people are U.S. citizens. We have a democratic system of government. And like the rest of the United States, the CNMI has a two-party system. The people choose our political leaders by voting at the general election. We have three branches of government, and each branch acts as a check on the other two branches.

The two political parties put up the candidates for public office. We expect all candidates to be capable and competent. We also expect the candidates to have realistic plans and goals for governing the CNMI and improving the local economy, as well as the livelihood and general welfare of all the people—not just the party stalwarts and supporters.

The political problem in the CNMI

Since the start of internal self- government in 1978, the two-party system has been the vehicle through which candidates for public office are fielded. For the first two decades of local self-government, the candidates were selected by consensus among the party members. There was no primary election.

After 1998, however, several individuals in a political party decided to run for the same public office, e.g., for governor and lieutenant governor. So the party decided to have a primary election to determine who will be the party candidates. But after a party primary election, however, the losing set of candidates for governor and lieutenant governor would usually leave the party (with their supporters and followers) and run as independents in the general election. This has been the political practice on many occasions.

Intra-party fighting between the two (and sometimes three) factions within a party are usually more heated than, say, the rivalries between the two political parties themselves. The different factions within a party usually become bitter political enemies that sometimes last for years.

So, since the start of the 21st century, there have usually been three or four sets of candidates running for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor. The two sets of "independent candidates" are usually offshoots of the two political parties, after they lose at the party primary election. But sometimes, a set of "independent candidates" not affiliated with any party would form and run for office at the general election. This was the case, for example, in the 2005 general election, with the establishment of a third political party. The winner among the four sets of candidates was elected by only a plurality of the votes cast, and not by a majority (i.e., at least 50% plus one) of the total votes cast. As a result, for the 2009 general election, the NMI Constitution was amended to require a runoff election, whenever no set of candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.

Whenever several candidates for governor and lieutenant governor run for office, new party coalitions are formed, and then reformed when there is a runoff election. Then, when all is said and done, the winning set of candidates and their supporters would treat the losing candidates and their supporters as if "enemies" for the next four years. This unhealthy political fallout has on many occasions bred mutual contempt and distrust between the winning group and the losing factions, who before then were party mates.

Such intra-party animosity would usually last until new coalitions with new loyalties are once again formed before the next general election. This political practice, however, is unhealthy for the people of the Commonwealth because the faction in power and their supporters would many times treat the losing candidates and their supporters as if second-class citizens. The winning candidates would act as if the CNMI government belong to them and their supporters only. Such practice has bred distrust and, at times, animosity between the members of the party in power and the factions who lost at the general election.

Another unhealthy political practice that has developed in the CNMI over the past two decades is the perceived attitude on the part of government executives who apparently think that because they are in control of the government, they could do as they please with the public treasury. They sometimes act as if the public treasury is their private fiefdom. This practice has taken place with increasing frequency for some time now. It is, of course, unethical if not illegal, whenever public funds are expended without complying with applicable law. Such questionable practice is exacerbated when the majority members of the Legislative Branch are also from the same political party. Legislators at times would turn a blind eye to the questionable expenditure of public funds by executive officials—because they are from the same party.

When such is the case, there is usually no check by the Legislative Branch on the questionable expenditures made by the Executive Branch. To compound this problem, executive department officials entrusted with the public treasury would themselves sometimes turn a blind eye to the questionable expenditures of public funds by senior executives. Department officials in charge of the public treasury apparently fear that if they question a transaction that has been incurred by senior executives, they would be terminated from their job for daring to question such expenditures.

The need to enforce the law, to clarify existing laws that are vague, and to enact new laws that have teeth with respect to the expenditure of public funds

The CNMI has laws in the books regarding the various legal issues that have arisen in recent years. On many occasions, however, government executives have not been keen on adhering with applicable laws, such as the procurement rules and regulations, the law governing official government travel, the law on permissible representation allowances, and so forth. These laws were enacted or promulgated for a valid reason: *the public treasury belongs to the public and public funds could only be used for a public purpose*. These expenditure laws and regulations must, therefore, be followed and enforced. And if such laws fall short, are ambiguous, need to be clarified, or need to be given more teeth, then that should be done by the Legislature through legislation or by the appropriate department by promulgating effective rules and regulations.

Any democratic government is only as good as the people we elect to public office or appoint to head key departmental positions. That is why the voters, when deciding whom to vote for public office, should carefully review the credentials and qualifications of those who are running for office. The voters must transcend party politics and party considerations when deciding whom to vote for and serve on our two political branches of government: the Executive Branch and the Legislature. The following admonition—with respect to computers—might be useful to take into consideration: "What goes in is what comes out." Stated differently: "What you see is what you get."

It is also important to realize that there is a big difference between the political practice here on the islands and the political practice in the continental United States. It is due in large part to the small size of the CNMI, both in terms of population and land area, as compared to the United States. In contrast to the CNMI, the continental United States has a population of over 300 million people, with a vast expanse of land running from the Atlantic to the Pacific. As such, only a very small fraction of the population in the United States is actually involved in national and state politics. And these are usually the political party leaders and their circle of active party followers. A very large percentage of the people in the 50 states are not involved in politics. The voters simply wait to see who the candidates of the two political parties are, and then vote accordingly in the general election. After that, there are no recriminations taken against those who voted for the losing candidates.

In the CNMI, however, literally every person is somehow involved in our grassroots politics. And almost everyone becomes very passionate and emotional about politics. Politics in the CNMI is not like a baseball game, where the winning team shakes hands with the losing team after the game is over. Politics in the CNMI is more like a strong religious belief that party members are willing to fight and die for, figuratively speaking. People in the CNMI take politics personally and emotionally. We sometimes see brother against brother, and sister against sister, on opposing sides and who are not on speaking terms. Party supporters and followers fail to see that whoever is elected to serve in public office is supposed to serve all the people, not just the party stalwarts and their supporters.

Party leaders and supporters on both sides of the political spectrum also fail to realize that the CNMI is one people, consisting of Chamorros, Refaluwasch, Statesiders and naturalized citizens who reside here. The government officials whom we elect to public office are supposed to represent all the people of the islands, not just the members of the winning party. When public officials, however, act as if they are elected to serve only their political supporters, they are not carrying out their duty and obligation under the NMI Constitution to serve *all the people of the Commonwealth.* And this point has been a fundamental shortcoming in the way our leaders have been governing the Commonwealth over the past two decades.

Both political parties and their supporters, at their core, must realize that we are only one people. The political parties are simply the mechanism through which the people are given a choice as to whom to vote as leaders of the CNMI. Each party must justify to the electorate the reason why their candidates are the best individuals to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the office they wish to serve in. Each party should realize that once the election is over, the winning candidates have an obligation to represent and serve all the people of the CNMI. The name of our government is the CNMI government. It is not the CNMI Republican Party government. And it is not the CNMI Democratic Party government. It is the government of all the people of the CNMI.

So, if the CNMI is to progress and mature politically, the political parties have to realize, first and foremost, that we are one people; and that we must use all of our available resources and manpower to improve the livelihood of all the people of the CNMI.

Jose S. Dela Cruz is a former justice of the NMI Supreme Court.

NORTH

From Page 8

responses throughout NE Asia.

How Guam is of vital interest to the balance of power exercised by the United States

DPRK's leader views the U.S. as a premier military threat. To the extent that North Korea's leader is threatened by U.S.-Japan-South Korean military exercises near or on the Korean Peninsula, DPRK will continue to do what is in its national interest.

The Marianas, particularly Guam, acts as one shore-based launching point to support a variety of military, paramilitary, and intelligence-related work against North Korea.

Guam's proximity to the Korean Peninsula and our island's subordinated status as a political colony of the United States makes it an ideal place to receive, maintain, prepare, and deploy American strategic lethal assets of the Air Force, in direct support of projecting American military might against North Korea.

Conversely, the Navy remains very resource-stressed every time one or several of its military ships are required to provide missile defense should North Korea decide to launch a ground-based missile attack against Guam or Japan or elsewhere.

Marianas villagers remain vulnerable

If the North Koreans ever launched a missile toward Guam or the Northern Marianas, our families have no place to go.

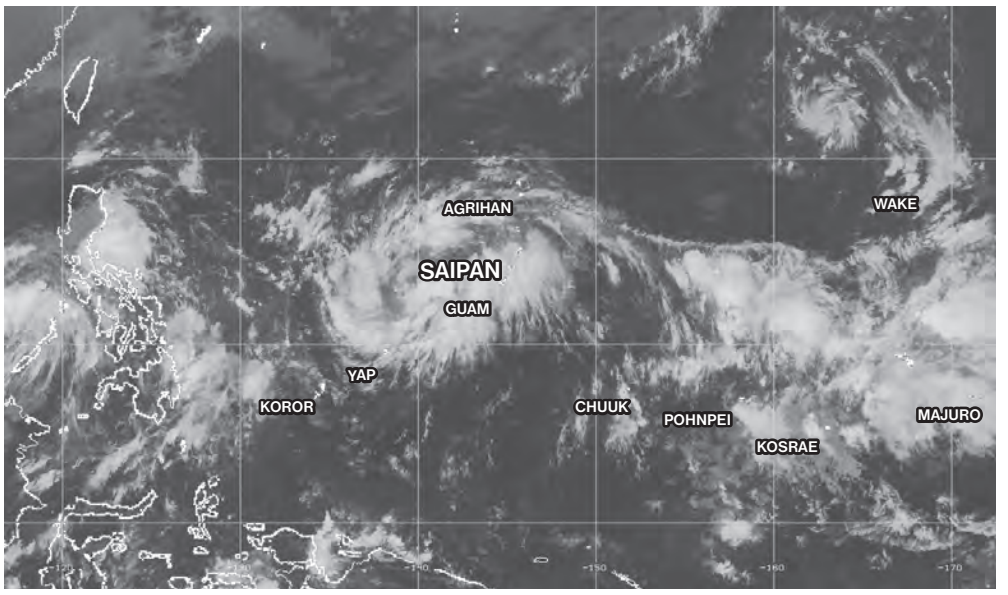
If an attack was initiated and the Navy did not shoot down the incoming missile, our people have no second line of protection to use because all the Mariana Islands do not have nuclear bomb shelters to go to. In other words, it would be game over for our Chamorro people and all those present should North Korea successfully launch a missile attack targeting our island chain.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds around 10 mph. Lows around 76. Chance of showers 20 percent.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows in the mid 70s. Highs in the upper 80s. Chance of showers 20 percent.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows in the upper 70s. Highs in the upper 80s. Chance of showers 20 percent.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Lows in the upper 70s. Highs in the upper 80s. Chance of showers 20 percent.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Highs in the upper 80s. Lows in the upper 70s. Chance of showers 20 percent.
85º / 77º	80º / 70º	80º / 70º	80º / 70º	80º / 70º

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:19 AM, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A wet day today for the Marianas as a circulation passes west of Guam.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Rain Shower	81 / 79 °F
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	85 / 78 °F
Yap	Cloudy	87 / 78 °F
Chuuk	Cloudy	84 / 79 °F
Pohnpei	Cloudy	83 / 76 °F
Kosrae	Cloudy	83 / 79 °F
Majuro	Cloudy	82 / 79 °F

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:10 AM	5:51 PM
Tuesday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Wednesday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Thursday	6:11 AM	5:49 PM
Friday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	9:44 AM	9:10 PM
Tuesday	-	10:36 AM	9:59 PM
Wednesday	-	11:27 AM	10:50 PM
Thursday	-	12:16 PM	11:44 PM
Friday	-	1:04 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Cloudy	60 / 58 °F
Beijing	Fair	65 /41 °F
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	76 / 67 °F
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	78 / 74 °F
London	Cloudy	58 / 52 °F
Los Angeles	Cloudy	62 / 57 °F
Manila	Light Rain	84 / 77 °F
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	60 / 49 °F
Miami	Showers	84 / 75 °F
New York	Mostly Cloudy	76 / 62 °F
Osaka	Rain	63 / 58 °F
Paris	AM Showers	62 / 48 °F
Busan	Partly Cloudy	70 / 54 °F
Rome	PM Showers	72 / 56 °F
Salem	Partly Cloudy	81 / 53 °F
San Francisco	AM Showers	61 / 52 °F
Seoul	Sunny	65 / 42 °F
Tokyo	Cloudy	67 / 55 °F
Washington, DC	PM Thunderstorms	77 / 58 °F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
3:31 AM	Low Tide	-0.09
10:27 AM	High Tide	1.67
4:03 PM	Low Tide	1.07
8:45 PM	High Tide	1.59

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 5, 2021

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	6:45am	7:25am	1, 3, 6
UA117	9:45am	10:25am	2, 4, 5, 7

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	2, 5
UA183	7:25pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	6:45am	9:10pm	1, 3, 6 via Guam
UA117/183	9:45am	8:50pm	2, 5 via Guam
UA117/183	9:45am	9:10pm	4, 7 via Guam

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

7C3406	3:10PM	6:55PM	6
TW9308	3:20PM	8:00PM	4
OZ6243	4:00PM	7:40PM	6

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	5:00am	5:41am	1, 3, 6
UA174	8:00am	8:41am	2, 4, 5, 7

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	9:50pm	3:55am+1	2, 5
UA184	10:25pm	4:30am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	9:50pm	5:41am+1	2, 5 via Guam
UA184/174	10:25pm	5:41am+1	7 via Guam
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:41am+1	1, 3, 4, 6 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3405	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
OZ6233	9:00AM	2:30PM	6
TW9307	10:00AM	2:20PM	4

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily
3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Daily
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

Santos wants small cargo vessels OK'd at East Harbor

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota) has requested Rota Mayor Efraim Atalig to pursue the recommended amendment to an agreement to authorize small vessels to use Rota's East Harbor to dock.

Currently, East Harbor remains under the management and control of the Rota Municipality. Santos' proposal would state that the harbor shall be utilized only for the specific purposed provided in the 2006 Agreement for Designation of Use of Public Domain Lands.

In her letter to Atalig Wednesday, the senator said the 2006 Agreement on the use of the East Harbor needs to be amended to include not only "recreational purposes" but also "commercial purposes" in order to provide flexibility to accommodate small cargo vessels such as those with roll on and roll off capabilities.

Santos

Santos said the issue pertaining to the use of the East Harbor came up in 2013 when then-acting Department of Public Lands secretary Ramon Salas verbally authorized private firm GPPC to conduct a one-time "dry run" of GPPC's vessel to dock at the East Harbor.

Santos said then-attorney general Joey P. San Nicolas agreed with her in 2013 that Salas lacked such authority.

She said San Nicolas noted that he could not issue a cease-and-desist order to GPPC because the harbor falls under the Commonwealth Ports Authority's jurisdiction.

Santos said that Attorney General Edward Manibusan noted in 2019 that control and management of the East Harbor is under the Rota Municipality in accordance with the 2006 Agreement for Designation.

Santos said that in June 2021, Manibusan commented on Senate Bill 22-16 authored by Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) that seeks to authorize the use of the East Harbor as an alternate port of entry for small cargo vessels.

She said Manibusan noted that CPA has jurisdiction over designated ports of entry, ensures safety, and that there must be technical and economic assessment whether the East Harbor is a feasible option in light that the West Harbor is the designated port of entry on Rota.

Talent wanted for 'CNMI Got Talent 10' in Dec.

The 10th edition of the CNMI's foremost talent competition, "CNMI Got Talent, will return this year, with Bridge Capital LLC announcing that the contest will be held on Dec. 17 at Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

The talent show is set to be live and in-person, and will have over $15,000 in prizes and will have two Christmas-themed categories: children aged 16 and younger, and adults 17 and above singing and open.

Bridge Capital invites the community to submit in-person to its Garapan office a high-quality video of a Christmas-themed audition piece, in any high-quality format, preferably on a USB, no later than Nov. 15.

Last year's talent show was fully virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This is going to be the best event ever. …As we recover from the pandemic, we want to give the performing arts community the opportunity to shine," said Bridge Capital vice president and general manager Bart Jackson.

For more information, call Bridge Capital at 670-322-2222 or email events@bcccnmi.com. ***(Joshua Santos)***

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
CLAIMS EXAMINER

Responsibilities: Assures needed coverage for file set-up is requested and secured. is in effect and documented in GENiiSYS,that the company's liability is properly determined. Otherwise assures that all claims are processed and logged in the common folder according to company procedures and standards. Assures visitors are handled in a professional mannor and inquiry is handled to satisfaction. Internal/External telephone calls are answered and directed to the appropriate staff member. Maintains verifies the claims are assigned appropriately and workload distribution in a equitable manner. Maintains courrier distribution and receipt. Material File set-up is distributed to the adjusters in a timely manner per Best Practice contact guidelines. Subrogation and Salvage checks are properly recorded in GENiiSYS. Maintain Filing and assures proper record destruction is done in a timely manner. Maintain Supplies and other information as required. Provide administrative services to claim staff and assist other management in meeting and travel assistance. Coordinate the repair or maintenance of office equipment. Assist in DMV record needs, Dept of Labor information and filings. Coordinate Documentation storage/retrieval.

We are looking for:
- Self-motivated team players with excellent communication and time managements skills;
- At least (4) years working experience in a non-life insurance company preferably in claims;
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal,
- Ability to interpret, understand and apply policy wordings or
- Demonstrate a basic standard of technical claims competence,
- Knowledge of the legal, regulatory and litigation requirements and procedures,
- Computer literate on Microsoft Office and Oracle based system program
- Customer service and negotiation skills
- Position is available in Saipan, CNMI only.

If interested, please drop off your application and/or resume at our Human Resources Department Office located at the Second Floor JP Center, Saipan or fax it to (670) 234-1845 or e-mail it to hr@centuryinsurancegroup.net.

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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
(RE-ANNOUNCEMENT)

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 22 – 015
Opening Date: 10/21/2021
Closing Date: 11/03/2021

POSITION TITLE:	Human Resources Technician
DEPARTMENT:	COA/Human Resources
LOCATION:	Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
ANNUAL SALARY:	$20,826.00 - $28,115.00 per annum, Non-Exempt
CONTRACT:	Not Contracted
POSITION(S):	One (1)

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") is seeking for a qualified Human Resources Technician. Under the direct supervision of the Human Resources Manager or his/her designee the responsibilities will be as follows:

Duties:

- Provides administrative and technical support tasks for daily Human Resource operational functions; provides administrative assistance with benefits, training, payroll and recruiting activities, information tracking and documentation.
- Receives processes and verifies forms and completion of required information; enters and maintains Human Resource information systems data, files and records; maintains confidential personnel files and records.
- Assists employees and the public by providing information related to HR processes and procedures; retrieves and reviews data and resources to provide response to inquiries; or, refer inquiries or requests to appropriate resource.
- Performs research and verifies information; performs calculations; processes timekeeping information; compiles and maintains data for audit purposes. ☒ May process job vacancy announcements and assist in employment interview.
- Prepares forms and reports; drafts correspondence and templates; assists with gathering, documenting and maintaining information for programs, projects, training, recruitment, benefits or other areas. ☒ Assists management with special projects, information tracking and reporting.
- Monitors supply needs and prepare requests for replacement or acquisition; monitors equipment maintenance requirements and schedules services as required. ☒ Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:
Successful candidates for the position must have the following:

Education:
High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS and 2 years of human resource or legal office experience.; or, an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties of the job such as those listed above. **Knowledge of:** Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Human Resource principles and practices; Program administration principles; Customer service principles; Mathematical concepts; Research methods; Database and records management principles; Modern office technology. **Skill In:** Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Administering and monitoring programs, policies and processes; Coordinating the implementation of human resource services; Researching and analyzing program-related data and resource information; Providing customer service; Interpreting policies and providing relevant information and guidance; Prioritizing work in order to meet time-sensitive program deadlines; Tracking and auditing data, forms, records and documentation; Preparing reports, correspondence, and program support materials; Updating and maintaining information systems and confidential records; Coordinating and assisting with projects; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Licensing:
o Valid CNMI Driver's License with appropriate class.
Physical Demands:
o Occasional lifting of objects, Subject to standing, walking, sitting, bending, reaching, kneeling, pushing and pulling.

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

P. O. Box 501220, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: (670) 235-5131
CUC is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
(RE-ANNOUNCEMENT)

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 22 – 010
Opening Date: 10/18/2021
Closing Date: 10/29/2021

POSITION TITLE:	Human Resources Generalist
DEPARTMENT:	COA/Human Resources
LOCATION:	Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
ANNUAL SALARY:	$37,756.00 - $50,970.00 per annum, Exempt
CONTRACT:	Contracted
POSITION(S):	One (1)

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") is seeking for a qualified Human Resources Generalist. Under the direct supervision of the Human Resources Manager or his/her designee the responsibilities will be as follows:

Duties:

- Gathers and analyzes pertinent employee information.
- Inputs data into system in a timely matter monitors and maintain information stored in data system andupdate data whenever it is needed.
- Generates all daily reports in a timely matter, i.e., daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual reports tothe immediate HR manager.
- Maintains and updates electronic and paper documents for the purpose of public information, trainings,meetings, case management and client information to the HR Manager.
- Responsible for keeping and organizing of filing system of all incoming and outgoing correspondences.
- Compiles and assist HR Manager in preparation and finalization of letters, memos and reports for eachdivision.
- Prepares request for personnel actions for signature of approving authority.
- Assists and/or participates in the preparation of applications and other documents and forms.
- Provides technical, analysis, research assistance of computer activities, problems, and issues.
- Familiarize and be able to maintain electronic technology provided by the department such as printers, fax,scanners, etc.
- Must be able to troubleshoot certain issues pertaining to electronics. Performs other duties of a similarnature and level as assigned.
- Perform other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:
Successful candidates for the position must have the following:

Education:
Bachelor's degree in Human Resources or directly related field and 4 years of general professional human resource-related experience; or, an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties of the job such as those listed above. Knowledge of: Applicable Federal, Commonwealth and local laws, codes, regulations and/or ordinances; Human Resource principles and practices; Program administration principles; Customer service principles; Mathematical concepts; Research methods; Database and records management principles; Modern office technology. Skill In: Interpreting and applying applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Administering and monitoring programs, policies and processes; Coordinating the implementation of human resource services; Researching and analyzing program-related data and resource information; Providing customer service; Interpreting policies and providing relevant information and guidance; Prioritizing work in order to meet time-sensitive program deadlines; Tracking and auditing data, forms, records and documentation; Preparing reports, correspondence, and program support materials; Updating and maintaining information systems and confidential records; Coordinating and assisting with projects; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Licensing:
o Valid CNMI Driver's License with appropriate class.
Physical Demands:
o Occasional lifting of objects, Subject to standing, walking, sitting, bending, reaching, kneeling,pushing and pulling.

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(RE-ANNOUNCEMENT)

P. O. Box 501220, Third Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-4282 • Fax: (670) 235-5131
CUC is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

‘Wave, Walk & Roll Against Domestic Violence’ draws crowd

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

JOSHUA SANTOS
Members of the community participate in Thursday’s “Purple Wave, Walk & Roll Against Domestic Violence” at the NMI Museum Grounds.

The NMI Museum grounds was teeming with people last Thursday evening that joined the wildly successful “Purple Wave, Walk & Roll Against Domestic Violence.”

Hosted by the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, walk had a big turnout; Saipan Tribune was told by an event volunteer that over 450 people registered to participate, with many more not registering and joining in on the walk.

The walk route began at NMI Museum grounds, crossed Middle Road, went around the Sugar King Park/ Gold’s Gym Saipan area, and circled back to NMI Museum grounds.

After the walk, eventgoers participated in a “Candlelight Vigil for Victims of Domestic Violence.”

These events were part of the NMCADSV’s commemoration of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which was proclaimed in the CNMI with a signing ceremony at Saipan World Resort earlier this month. This year’s DVAM theme is “Healing Forward.”

Next event in the CNMI will be the “Light of Unity” on Oct. 23 at the Tun Kindo’ Baseball Field on Rota, where the community will light up the field and commemorate the victims and survivors of domestic violence as well as those still going through domestic violence.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on ***Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 8am*** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Administration Building, Governor’s Conference Room on Capitol Hill.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Determination of Quorum
III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (09/15/2021)
V. Public Comments
VI. Chairperson’s Report
  A. Opinion on how to maintain the public health safety from Rota and keeping services (R.Glass)
VII. Director’s Report
  A. Financial Report
  B. CNMI-Tyler Intergovernment Software Update
  C. Update on Proposed Regulations
    1. Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist
    2. Addiction Professional
VIII. Investigator’s Report
IX. Communications from the Governor’s Office & Legislature
  A. Governor’s Office
  B. Legislature
    1. Senate Bill 22-08 “CNMI Higher Education Act of 2021”
X. Old Business
XI. New Business
XII. Pending Applications for Board’s Review
  A. New Application
  B. Renewal Applications
XIII. Miscellaneous Business
XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
  • Peter Geissler – Radiology Technology applicant
XV. Announcements
  A. Next Meeting Date
  B. Adjournment of Meeting

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp I Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net
Ph: (670) 234-6866/9447/7670

Notice to the General Public

Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program

(October 25, 2021)

Pursuant to §100-90-410 of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation’s (NMHC) Section 8 Administrative Plan for Rental Assistance Programs, this is to inform the general public that the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) waiting list has reached its maximum number of applicants on October 22, 2021. Therefore, the HCVP waiting list is closed effective October 25, 2021. Pre-applications will **NOT** be accepted at the NMHC Main Office on Saipan nor the Field Offices on Tinian and Rota.

NMHC Housing Specialists & Field Office Representatives will review the pre-applications submitted on or before October 22, 2021 and formally contact applicants to schedule eligibility appointments. For more information, please contact NMHC at telephone numbers 234-6866 or 234-9446 (Saipan), 433-9213 (Tinian), or 532-9410 (Rota).

“NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency”

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT
DISASTER RECOVERY (CDBG-DR) DIVISION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: cnmi-cdbg-dr@nmhcgov.net I Website: http://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com
Tels: (670) 233-9447, 233-9448, 233-9449, 233-9450 I Fax: (670) 233-9452

PUBLIC NOTICE

“NMHC will suspend application intake for its CDBG-DR New Construction/Homebuyer Programs”

Due to a huge volume of Pre-Qualification applications and URLA Loan Application packets received to date and funding committed to approved loan applicants as well as the urgency to speed up processing of loan applications for applicants determined eligible for financial assistance, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is notifying the general public that it will **SUSPEND** accepting new applications for its CDBG-DR New Construction/Homebuyer programs effective November 12, 2021.

The two (2) NMHC CDBG-DR Housing Programs affected by this suspension include:

1. New Construction for Homeownership Opportunity and First-Time Homebuyer Assistance Program; and
2. Homebuyer Program.

Depending on the number of loan applications approved and subject to funding availability, NMHC may resume application intake.

Thank you and for more information, please contact NMHC CDBG-DR Division at Tel. Nos. 233-9447/9448/9449/9450 or via email cnmi-cdbg-dr@nmhcgov.net

“NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency”

CEDA
COMMONWEALTH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950 | Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 | Fax: (670) 235-7147 | www.developcnmi.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

October 25, 2021

PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-41, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION DIVISION (DCD) OF THE COMMONWEALTH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CEDA) THRU ITS CHAIRMAN HEREBY INFORMS THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE DCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL HOLD ITS REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2021 AT 1:00 P.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CEDA CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, CEDA BUILDING, OLEAI, SAIPAN. THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  A. Call to Order
  B. Roll Call
  C. Election of Vice-Chairman
  D. Adoption of Agenda
  E. Adoption of Minutes
    1. August 10, 2021
II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
III. REPORTS
  A. DCD Financial Status
IV. OLD BUSINESS
V. NEW BUSINESS
  A. Loan Applications/Loan Matters
    1. Martin DLR & Crystal C. Pangelinan
    2. Roger A. & Jesusa B. Dris
    3. Domingo M. Hocog
    4. Francine & Jerad Atalig
    5. Ivyline T. Hocog
    6. Frances Sablan-Arriola
    7. Michael A. & Maria H. Aguon
    8. Jesus M.V. & Reiko Guerrero
VI. OTHER MATTERS
  A. Loan Software (on-line application & loan management)
VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 1(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ FRANK LEE SN. BORJA
Chairman, DCD Board of Directors

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
P.O. BOX 500861 CK
SAIPAN, MP 96950
TEL: (670) 664-3200/1
FAX: (670) 664-3237
info@mymarianas.com
www.mymarianas.com
The Marianas

REGULAR BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, October 27, 2021 at 09:00 a.m.** in the MVA Conference Room, Saipan MP 96950

MEETING AGENDA

1) **Preliminary Matters**
  a. Call to Order
  b. Roll Call
  c. Adoption of Agenda
  d. Adoption of Minutes
    i. Regular Board Meeting – September 09, 2021
    ii. Special Board Meeting – September 28, 2021
2) **Public Comments**
3) **Committee Reports**
  a. Finance Committee
    i. Fund Status Report
4) **New Business**
  a. Request For Proposal For Tourism Resumption Investment Plan - Hybrid Quarantine Facility
5) **Old Business**
  a. CNMI Tourism Resumption Investment Plan (TRIP)
  b. MVA Office Space
6) **Executive Session**
7) **Miscellaneous/Announcements**
8) **Adjournment**

/s/ Viola Alepuyo
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP22-CHCC/CGC-CCP-004
SUBMISSION DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 5, 2021 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

“OFFICE LEASE - ROTA”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

Court issues summons for man convicted of hostage taking

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has granted the request of the U.S Probation Office to issue a summons for a man who violated the terms of his probation in a case involving a hostage taking.

District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona Manglona issued the summons for habitual offender Edwin Peter Blas, a man convicted of hostage taking and felon in possession of ammunition, among other charges, after he admitted to consuming alcohol in violation of his probation.

The U.S Probation Office also wants the court to revoke Blas' probation anew.

According to the probation officer, Blas was arrested for a criminal offense and appeared to be under the influence of alcohol at the time of the arrest. He later admitted to consuming alcohol on Jan. 7, 2020.

He received a sentence of 18 month imprisonment, followed by 18 months of supervised release for that crime but on Sept. 1, 2021, Blas admitted to consuming alcohol again in violation of his release conditions.

Blas has a long list of violating probation, according to the US Probation Office's petition for warrant of summons.

Initially, Blas was sentenced to an imprisonment term of 180 months for one count of hostage taking, and 120 months for possession of ammunition back in August 1999. His sentence was to be served concurrently, followed by a five-year term of supervised release.

On April 10, 2014, the conditions of his release were modified to include that Blas refrain from the use of all alcoholic beverages after he reported to a substance abuse counseling appointment while under the influence of alcohol.

On Oct. 15, 2014, Blas' probation was revoked because he admitted to consuming alcohol on two separate occasions and failing to report for a counseling session. He received a sentence of eight months in prison, followed by 52 months of supervised release.

Blas' probation was revoked again on July 27, 2016, for use of marijuana and for lying to his probation officer. He was sentenced to a one-month imprisonment term, followed by 51 months of supervised release.

During the supervised release in this case, his probation was revoked on May 18, 2017, for use of methamphetamine and alcohol. He received an imprisonment term of seven days followed by 41 months of supervised release.

On June 8, 2018, Blas assaulted his common-law spouse and used alcohol on April 25, 2018. His probation was revoked, again, on June 26, 2018 and he was sentenced to 14 months, followed by 27 months of supervised probation.

His probation was revoked another time on Feb. 19, 2020, after Blas was arrested for a new criminal offense and appeared to be under the influence of alcohol at the time of the arrest, as well as admission to consuming alcohol on Jan. 7, 2020.

Mod Neni products now available at Boarderline

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Mod Neni style is light, boho-inspired, and gives you the island feel.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Baby clothes? They're a dime-a-dozen and you can easily fill up a cart with bland, cookie-cutter products that will fit your little price or princess. But tropical-inspired baby clothes? Now that's a whole different ballgame and finding one can be very challenging. That's where Mod Neni enters the picture.

Started by husband-and-wife duo Manny and Jane Cabrera, who are originally from Saipan but currently live in the U.S. East Coast, Mod Neni clothing and accessories for babies and youth are now available at Boarderline in Garapan.

Manny Cabrera said that many of their products at Boarderline—their first foray in the CNMI—are mainly boho-island-inspired straw hats, swimwear, and accessories. All items are exclusively designed by Mod Neni.

Cabrera said they decided to enter the CNMI market by going through Boarderline, which he said is well known for carrying top-notch quality and brand name items. "We've seen Boarderline support local small businesses and it is an honor to work with them to share our items back home," he added.

Manny Cabrera said the styles and design of Mod Neni speaks loudly of their grassroots—the islands.

"It was all my wife's idea. Jane searched for neutral, tropical-inspired clothing and accessories for our son but did not find them fitting her expectations, so she decided to design them on her own. Her mother, Lorie, is an important member of our small business because as a seamstress she is able to help craft Jane's ideas into tangible products," Manny Cabrera said.

The first batch of items has already arrived at Boarderline. Cabrera said their target market are expectant parents, new parents, and even long-time parents who appreciate art and are big supporters of small businesses.

"Our brand is run by Asian and Pacific Islanders, while we are sharing our products to our Saipan people. We are also showcasing our culture and heritage to people all over the world. …We have shipped orders to many corners of the world—the United States, Korea, Spain and even Canada," he said.

"…Initially, we are sending limited quantities and sizes to Boarderline. …We are hoping that our first launch with Boarderline is a success so we can introduce more products in the future," he added

When you go to their website, modneni.com, you will fall in love with the light and earthy feel their items evoke. Jane Cabrera mentions in the website that she is a lover of all things boho, neutral and pastel. Currently, they are showcasing their autumn collection.

Mod Neni's best sellers are their straw hats and "Shaka Territory" rashguards.

"We want you to be happy and proud when you use our products. …We are looking into adding more baby accessories, clothing and also nursery decor. Our fun and quirky Chamorro/Chamoru onesies didn't make it to this launch but we are hoping it will for the next run," Manny Cabrera said.

Mod Neni offers free shipping for every purchase of $35 and above from their website.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

For more information, go to their website: modneni.com or Facebook: Mod Neni LLC, and Instagram:@modneni.

Underwater pumpkin carving this Saturday

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

The third annual underwater pumpkin carving contest pioneered by Green Flash Dive is happening on Saturday, Oct. 30 at Lau Lau Bay dive point, starting at 8am.

This unique and fun event brings scuba divers together to practice their pumpkin carving skills, a popular activity during the Halloween. The challenge is it will all be done underwater.

This year's event, contestants have a choice to design and carve whatever vegetable or fruit they are comfortable with—not just pumpkins.

According to Green Flash Dive owner Rhea McDoulett, the event gives people 45 minutes to design and carve underwater…in the beautiful setting of the LauLau Bay dive point.

"The rules have only slightly changed from past events to emphasize that the carving and assembly must be completed underwater within the 45-minute time frame," she said.

Registration is still open and McDoulett said they are expecting over 15 participants. "Each participant must register, sign a liability release form, and pay the $10 registration fee. The registrant must be an open water certified diver through any recognized dive certification agency. The forms are available at Green Flash Dive in Chinatown," she added.

Judges will weigh originality, visual impact, craftsmanship, and quality.

In addition, there will be a costume contest among the participants.

"Some of our contestants from last year had spectacular underwater costumes. …We are adding an underwater photograph of each costume to assist the judges in making a fair assessment of the costumes," McDoulett said.

Participants will still be free to carve their own theme but within the bounds of anything related to underwater or Halloween. "No one wants to stifle anyone's creativity. The judges have been asked to rate one portion of the carving on a theme related to underwater or Halloween—two very broad categories," McDoulett added.

The carving prizes that await first, second and third places for the carving portion are a Scubapro MK2/R095 Regulator Set, Scubapro Premium Boat Coat, Scubapro Premium Boat Coat and Scubapro Go Fins. The prizes for first and second places in the costume contest are 15 free tank fills and 10 free tank refills—all courtesy of Green Flash Dive.

"[This] is a special event for all local divers and a lot of fun for everyone that participates. [We] invite [anyone] who is interested in having a good time with the potential to win some pretty fantastic prizes. Our former contestants are hungry and motivated to prove themselves to be the Carve Champion of 2021," McDoulett said.

For more information, call Green Flash Dive at (670) 233-3243 or come by the shop to see the prizes in person. Green Flash Dive is open 7am to 6pm every day.

Health & Wellness

This advertorial is sponsored by Tan Holdings HEALTH IS WEALTH Tan Siu Lin Foundation

MAYO CLINIC Q AND A

Simplify health goals for success

Adjust your outlook of better health to break the vicious cycle of exercise and diet plans that aren't sustainable. Start with a few small things that are realistic given your lifestyle, work and family needs.

DREAMSTIME/TNS

By CYNTHIA WEISS
MAYO CLINIC NEWS NETWORK

DEAR MAYO CLINIC: I am a mom of three kids under 10, and I have struggled with weight loss for years. I am challenged between family and work obligations to maintain a healthy lifestyle. I always start off strong, but then I get overwhelmed and stop. Last month, despite trying to eat right and working out daily, I gained weight after two weeks instead of losing it. And then if I miss several days at the gym, I start wondering what's the point. I feel as if I am in a constant battle with myself to live better. Do you have any advice for helping to stay motivated?

ANSWER: Life can be busy, as you juggle kids, work and family, along with many other obligations. Understandably, this hectic pace can make it difficult to cook a healthy meal or find time to work out and take care of yourself. The side effects of this behavior often can be an increase in body weight or a standstill when it comes to losing pounds.

Adding insult to injury, yo-yo weight losses and gains can cause such issues as prediabetes with borderline cholesterol levels or prehypertensive blood pressure. Justifiably, this can cause higher levels of stress, guilt and depression, and lead to negative behavior like comfort eating and additional weight gain.

When I talk to patients, I find that people often come up with a plan to lose the weight that includes things such as:

- Ridding homes of any desserts, candy, soda and processed food.
- Promising to buy and eat only whole foods made from scratch.
- Going to the gym five or more days a week and working out for an hour each time.
- Hiring a life coach to help get their life together.
- Reducing work stress.

Does this sound familiar?

Most people start out strong and do OK for three to four weeks, but then they slowly revert to old habits that leave them with excess pounds and feeling discouraged. Once they get motivated to try again, they do, but the cycle tends to repeat itself.

I recommend simplifying your goals. Adjust your outlook of better health to break the vicious cycle of exercise and diet plans that aren't sustainable. Start with a few small things that are realistic given your lifestyle, work and family needs.

Rather than identify six or seven goals, select and focus on one simple thing you can change today. For instance, identify a single thing related to your diet, such as cutting out sugary drinks and increasing your water intake. If you are someone who drinks multiple sodas daily, you can lose upward of 10 pounds a year by reducing your intake by one soda per day, even if you change nothing else. This is a perfect example of creating success for yourself by just changing one thing.

Another idea would be to eat a salad every other day with a meal. This can be something you can easily manage and feel successful with. Just remember not to overload it with dressing. Or instead of grabbing a handful of chips for a snack, grab an apple or a cheese stick. Consider the same substitutions for your children so you won't be tempted.

Over time, one change will lead to another. As you implement healthy things into your routine, you will build more success. And that success will make these lifestyle changes sustainable.

With respect to physical activity, take a moment to focus on the amount of physical activity per week you want to aim for rather than a number of days at the gym. Ideally, we know that for optimal cardiac health and weight loss, the recommended amount of moderate physical activity is about 175 minutes a week. Although that translates to about five sessions of 30 minutes of aerobic exercise, start smaller.

If you give yourself some grace to find something that works, you can then build on it until it's more sustainable.

As a working mom of young kids, getting to the gym daily may be challenging. Can you find two 15-minute slots in your day to go for a walk outside? Can you and your family—kids included—go for a walk after dinner? Over time, increase your behaviors. Commit to a 30-minute walk or visit the gym once or twice a week for 30 minutes. Recent studies show that even one visit to the gym, although not optimal, is still better than not going at all. In addition, you can feel good knowing you have had success.

Over time, you can gradually move your goal to three times a week. Then eventually you can increase the time to 45 minutes or one hour.

Remember, building healthy habits takes time. Think about your children. When children are learning a skill, whether it's reading, writing their name or riding a bike, they experience setbacks and successes. Those successes are usually celebrated. These experiences build momentum and provide confidence that leads to long-term sustainability.

Motivation by success works much better than motivation by guilt. Unfortunately, a lot of motivation to change is guilt-based. This doesn't work with motivating children, or with managers and leaders with employees in the workplace, so why should you expect this to work for yourself?

Take time to identify some easy, simple, healthy adjustments you can make that will give you the confidence to keep adding new things. Also, talk with your health care provider if you have special dietary needs, any underlying medical conditions or have more specific questions.

Dr. Graham King, Family Medicine, Mayo Clinic Health System, Mankato, Minnesota. ©2021 Mayo Clinic News Network. Visit newsnetwork.mayoclinic.org. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Did Americans work out more during pandemic? Study finds the opposite, in fact

By CHRISTINE FERNANDO
USA TODAY

During the pandemic, U.S. adults have on average exercised less, drank and smoked more, and spent more time in front of computer or TV screens, according to a study published Tuesday.

UCLA researchers surveyed American adults in October 2020 about five "lifestyle behaviors": exercise time, screen time, fast food consumption, alcohol drinking and cigarette smoking.

Compared with before the COVID-19 pandemic, exercise time decreased by 31%, screen time increased by 60%, alcohol consumption increased by 23%, and smoking by 9%.

Researchers noted the surveys were done in October, so results may only reflect lifestyle changes at that point in time during the pandemic.

Jian Li, professor of environmental health sciences at UCLA, said in a statement measures and recommendations to reduce COVID-19's spread were "vital." However, those measures resulted in a "profound change in normal daily activities."

Average fast food consumption, dropped from 1.41 times per week before the pandemic to 0.96 times a week. But while 77% of those surveyed reduced or didn't change their fast food consumption, 23% saw an increase in the fast food they ate, according to the study.

This was likely due to stay-at-home orders and the closing of many fast-food restaurants during the pandemic, Liwei Chen, UCLA associate professor of epidemiology and lead author of the study, said in the statement.

The study's findings align with previous research in Canada, Italy, Brazil and Poland that observed unhealthy lifestyle changes during the pandemic, researchers said.

Black and Hispanic Americans were more likely to have undesired changes in exercise, screen time, fast food consumption and alcohol drinking compared with white Americans, according to the study. Native Americans were also more likely to see drops in exercise time and increases in fast food consumption.

"As bad as these changes have been for all Americans, they disproportionately impact racial and ethnic minorities in the U.S., who already bear a higher disease burden from COVID-19," Chen said in the statement.

Researchers said this impact on communities of color is consistent with previous research showing the "disproportionate exposure to and suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic by these groups."

Compared to older adults aged 60 and over, younger adults between ages 18 and 29 were also more likely to see dips in exercise time and increases in fast food, alcohol and cigarette consumption, according to the study.

"Future lifestyle interventions might become more effective if they can target these high-risk subgroups who are more likely to be disproportionately impacted," researchers said in the study.

The increase in sedentary behavior and other negative lifestyle impacts are worth paying attention to, researchers said.

"Whether these persisted as the pandemic continued, and whether individual's quality of life and health well-being are subsequently affected, has to be studied," Li said. "But it is clear that resources and support that can help people maintain healthy lifestyles, during the pandemic and afterwards, are urgently needed."

UCLA also released a guide in August on how to assess alcohol consumption during the pandemic and make changes. The guide encouraged asking simple questions about personal alcohol use and setting concrete goals when trying to decrease alcohol consumption.

Contact News Now Reporter Christine Fernando at cfernando@usatoday.com or follow her on Twitter at @christinetfern.

CUC network outage expected to be fixed by now

Last Oct. 14, 2021, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. experienced hardware damage that affected access to its software systems and server that allows network communication to its satellite offices on all three islands. As a result, employees are not able to access the Customer Information and Billing System and the Financial System.

CUC management immediately reached out to expert cyber consultants who are working alongside with CUC's IT Department on a long-term solution as well as to get the hardware back up and running and the systems restored online as soon as possible.

Based on recent updated discussions with its software system providers, CUC anticipates the system will be restored and back online on or before today, Oct. 25, 2021.

CUC's operations continue as power, water, and wastewater services are not affected by this incident. However, Customer Service Representatives are temporarily limited in providing assistance to CUC customers as transactions, such as service applications and payment transactions are processed manually. Customers are advised to bring with them their CUC utility bill when visiting a CUC Customer Center for better assistance. Customers are also advised that utility bills scheduled to be mailed during this period may be delayed.

CUC will not penalize customers for late payments or disconnect any delinquent customer as a result of this incident. CUC also assures all its customers that any personal data on CUC's system is secured and inaccessible to unauthorized users.

Visit CUC's website at www.cucgov.org or its Facebook page for updates on this matter. For emergencies or customer service assistance over the phone, please call (670) 664-4282 to speak with a Customer Service Representative.

In the meantime, customers can make payments at Bank of Guam, Bank of Saipan, or at any of the CUC Customer Centers on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. CUC management appreciates the understanding of its customers and apologizes for any inconvenience this has caused anyone. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

4.3-magnitude quake in Pagan region

At 3:52am on Oct. 23, 2021, a report of a 4.3-magnitude earthquake occurred at 18.208°N 145.299°E in Pagan region of the Northern Mariana Islands . Currently, there are no tsunami warnings, or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. ***(PR)***

5.4-magnitude quake in FSM

At 5:45pm on Oct. 22, 2021, a report on a 5.4-magnitude earthquake occurred at 4.435°N 147.283°E in the Federated States of Micronesia region. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 670-237-8000. ***(PR)***

Water service interruption in portions of Fina Sisu, Lower Dandan and As Lito

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the public that there will be a scheduled water service interruption on Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2021, from 8am to 5pm for customers in portions of Fina Sisu along Tun Joaquin Doi Road from the corner of the Shell Dandan Gas Station to the Saipan International School entrance in As Lito.

The purpose of the scheduled water service interruption is due to the improvement and replacement of the 2-inch waterline, as part of the Fine Sisu Waterline Replacement Project. Customers should expect low water pressure to no water during the duration of the water interruption.

For more information, contact the CUC Hotline (236-4333) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporationl). ***(PR)***

Small craft advisory today

A small craft advisory is in effect from midnight last night to 6am today, Monday.

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Guam and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center-State Warning Point, south winds are building to between 20 and 25 knots, with occasional gusts of 30 knots. Choppy seas between 5 and 8 feet are expected. These conditions will be hazardous to small craft.

Largest seas are likely near Guam. Reduced visibility likely at times due to waves of heavy showers. Inexperienced mariners, especially those operating smaller vessels, should avoid navigating in hazardous conditions. ***(PR)***

RFP for lubes, oils for Saipan, Rota power plants out soon

JOSHUA SANTOS

Acting Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board of directors chair Weston Thomas Deleon Guerrero, center, leads last Friday's meeting at CUC's main office's conference room at the Joeten Dandan Building. Also pictured is board secretary Jovita SN. Paulino, board member Janice A. Tenorio, board treasurer Matthew J. Holley, and CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho.

By JOSHUA SANTOS
joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board of directors approved last Friday the CUC administration's request to put out a request for proposal for the supply and delivery of lubricants and oils for CUC's Saipan and Rota power plants. The RFP will be for a four-year contract that will be assessed on a year-to-year basis.

With the board approval in hand, CUC will soon put out an RFP. CUC executive director Gary P. Camacho said he will be keeping the board posted on the matter and will bring the contract to the board when it is prepared.

Per CUC bylaws, the CUC board must first approve a decision to put out an RFP before an RFP is advertised. When potential bidders are received, CUC's bid selection committee will then identify the most responsive bidder, and then prepare a contract that will be signed by the board chair.

Also on the agenda last Friday was a request for the board's approval to advertise an RFP for the installation of fiber optic cables. Board member Janice A. Tenorio stated for the record that she asked to be recused from voting and discussion on the matter, as she works for IT&E.

Camacho requested the board to move discussion on this to executive session, as discussion will be related to CUC's network, its software, its customers' information, and other sensitive information. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to move further discussion on the matter to executive session.

Last Friday's board meeting was held at CUC's main office's conference room at the Joeten Dandan Building.

Mom still snoozes with pre-teen son

DEAR ABBY: My son and daughter-in-law went through a lot to have a baby, but she had a miracle child in her 40s. The boy is now 12. The problem: She's still sleeping with him regularly. She's very cuddly and "smoochy" with him, and they use baby talk with each other. My wife and I are worried about his development and future. Should we be? Is there anything we, as grandparents, can or should do? We're not comfortable bringing it up in conversation.

DOESN'T SEEM NORMAL

DEAR DOESN'T: OK, so you're not comfortable talking to your daughter-in-law about it. But where is your son in this scenario? Have you asked him what he thinks about it? How does your grandson feel about the fact that he still sleeps with his cuddly, smoochy mother? He'll be a teenager in another year, maturing from boyhood to young manhood. While you and I might consider what's going on to be stunting your grandson's development, other than talking with your family, there is nothing you can or should do.

DEAR ABBY: I'm having a huge disagreement with a "boyfriend." He says women and men cannot be friends, ever, and that one or the other wants more than friendship. I believe people of the opposite sex can be friends and that there's nothing wrong with it. I have some male friends, and on the rare occasion I see them, my boyfriend berates me and calls me names. It goes on for days. And no matter what I wear, I am yelled at for that as well. He is convinced they want me for sex even if I'm out with a group, never alone. Please help settle this.

FRIENDLY IN NEW YORK

DEAR FRIENDLY: Gladly. The sooner you ditch this insecure "BOYfriend," the better off you will be. His insecurity and verbal abuse are an indication of what your future will be if you let the relationship develop further. When someone berates you and calls you names "for days," it's an attempt to wear you down and control you. (Does he also try to deprive you of sleep?) The more friends one has, the better, and if some of them are of the opposite sex, it's fine. Please do not knuckle under. Lose this loser.

DEAR ABBY: I have three daughters who live with me. My ex-wife told them what I used to do for work after I got out of the service, before they were born. I was a mercenary. I was hired by a reputable security firm, and I never did anything illegal or morally wrong, but my daughters look at me differently now. How do I set this right?

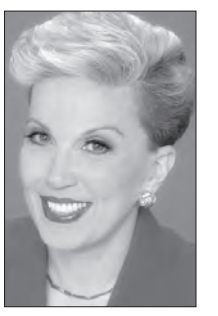
FULL-TIME DAD IN OREGON

DEAR DAD: I wish you had mentioned how old your daughters are, and described how they are treating you "differently." You need to have an honest talk with them —in an age-appropriate way—about your former career and be prepared to answer any questions they may have. In a case like this, being open and forthright is the solution.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

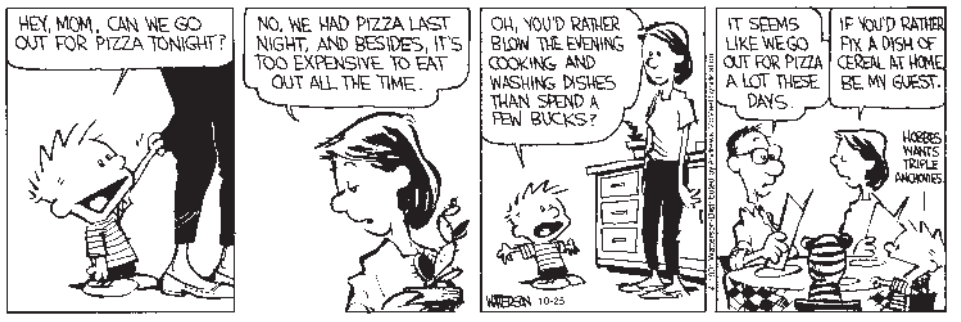


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


HEY, MOM, CAN WE GO OUT FOR PIZZA TONIGHT?
NO. WE HAD PIZZA LAST NIGHT, AND BESIDES, IT'S TOO EXPENSIVE TO EAT OUT ALL THE TIME.
OH, YOU'D RATHER BLOW THE EVENING COOKING AND WASHING DISHES THAN SPEND A FEW BUCKS?
IT SEEMS LIKE WE GO OUT FOR PIZZA A LOT THESE DAYS.
IF YOU'D RATHER FIX A DISH OF CEREAL AT HOME, BE MY GUEST.
HOBBES WANTS TRIPLE ANCHOVIES.
WATTERSON 10-25

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

NOW BACK TO "ATTACK OF THE 50-FOOT BUNNY"
YAAAHHHH!!
THAT GUY SURE PICKED A BAD DAY TO WEAR HIS LETTUCE SUIT
PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
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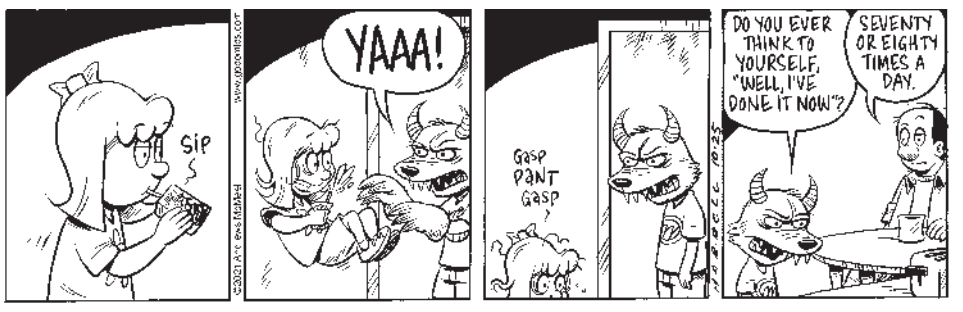
PLAYED 10-25

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WHAT ARE YOU WRITING?
A LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT REQUESTING TO BE U.S. AMBASSADOR TO DOGONIA.
THERE'S NO COUNTRY CALLED "DOGONIA."
WANNA BET?! I FACT-CHECKED IT ON DOGOPEDIA!
10/25

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Egyptian cobra
4 Purse
7 Notoriety
11 McEnroe's rival
13 Capote nickname
14 Nile wader
15 Taxi alternative
16 Salt source
17 Answer an invite
18 Stuns, as a perp
20 Rara —
22 Fine, at NASA
24 Country song?
28 Smuggle
32 Nile city
33 Incite
34 Candied veggie
36 Misfortunes
37 To the point
39 Interferes
41 Dangerous fly
43 Stir-fry pan
44 Lend a hand
46 Lightheaded
50 Rani's dress
53 Sleep acronym
55 Skater Lipinski
56 Conspiracy
57 Assoc.
58 Openhanded hit
59 Evergreen trees
60 "Delicious!"
61 Online chats, briefly

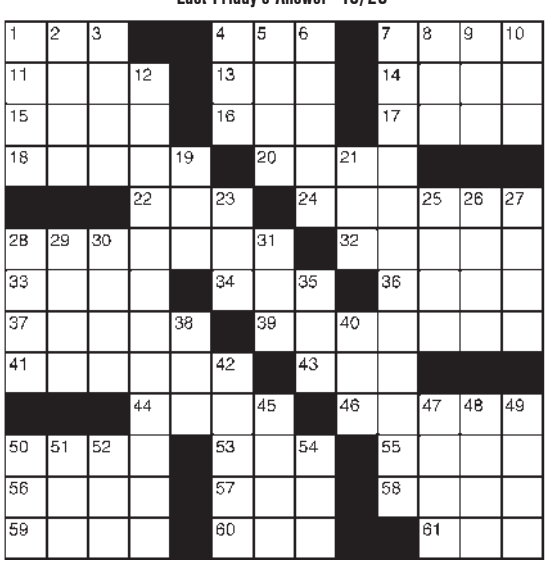
DOWN

1 Border on
2 Japanese noodles
3 Corp. VIP
4 "Butter" K-pop band
5 Bailiwick
6 Tropical fruit
7 Emergency items
8 Sit-up targets
9 Roman 1004
10 Sixth sense
12 Album of top songs
19 Scale member
21 Business mag
23 Crucial
25 Mound
26 — Stanley Gardner
27 Rolling stone's lack
28 Cigar remnant
29 Raw minerals
30 Shrek, for one
31 Leg, in slang
35 Kitten's cry
38 Compass pt.
40 Pooch
42 "The Jetsons" boy
45 Lima's land
47 Surrealist Salvador
48 Small amount
49 Shrill barks
50 CIA operative
51 Pub pint
52 Tier
54 "Ben-Hur" studio

Solution time: 26 mins.

L	Y	C	R	A	■	A	D	S	■	E	P	A
B	O	O	E	D	■	S	E	A	■	V	O	L
J	U	M	B	O	■	T	E	X	T	I	-	C
■	■	P	A	R	S	E	D	■	A	T	O	P
P	S	I	■	F	A	R	■	S	M	A	S	H
U	R	L	S	■	U	N	L	■	T	■	■	■
P	I	E	P	A	N	■	A	R	A	B	I	C
■	■	■	R	O	A	S	T	■	M	E	S	A
D	E	V	I	L	■	Q	E	D	■	G	O	B
E	R	I	N	■	B	U	R	E	A	J	■	■
F	R	A	G	I	I	F	■	F	R	I	D	A
F	F	I	■	R	F	A	■	A	I	I	F	D
H	D	S	■	A	W	L	■	■	A	E	B	O

Last Friday's Answer 10/25



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ciara, 36; Katy Perry, 37; Josh Henderson, 40; Persia White, 49.

Happy Birthday: Make adjustments that will set you up for a better future. Take care of financial matters by reducing your overhead and letting go of things you no longer need. Use your space wisely, and you will encourage productivity and a clear passage forward. Don't let gullibility or vulnerability be your downfall. Size up situations, take control and do what's best for you. Your numbers are 9, 16, 20, 27, 29, 34, 46.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Focus on what you need to get what you want. Prepare to negotiate with finesse and show you are qualified to take on whatever comes your way. Don't be shy; speak up and make things happen. Self-improvement is favored. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Uncertainty and indecisiveness are the enemies. Check every angle, and consider the pros and cons. Take advantage of an opportunity. A baby step is better than no step at all. Feel your way through to victory. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Pay attention to detail. Set high expectations, and do whatever it takes to finish what you start. An opportunity to advance is within reach and dependent on what you plan to master. Add skills to your qualifications, then forge ahead. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Engage in something that offers a challenge. A creative endeavor will come with a price; before you begin, consider what you can afford, and you'll find a way to stick to a budget and still accomplish what you set out to do. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Approach people you can count on for assistance and worthwhile suggestions. Discussions will help you take action and get the ball rolling. Opportunity and rewards are within reach if you set your course and follow through. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Be a good watchdog. Stay on top of facts, and verify information when someone tries to lead you astray. Put your effort into whatever makes the most sense, and you will find it easier to get things done on time. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Pick up the pace, gather information and set a path that will encourage you to expand your mind. Look for efficient ways to run your life and home. Map out a plan that includes loved ones, and you'll reach your objective quickly. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Don't ignore a problem you encounter with a friend, relative or peer. Address matters quickly, and go about your business. Make changes at home that are affordable and will help you maintain a steady income. Use your skills, knowledge and experience consciously. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Listen to your heart, but don't ignore the facts. Be proactive; question anyone who tries to mess with you. Recognize what you want, and you'll develop a plan that will help you expand your interests. Personal improvement is favored. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Take the liberty to investigate situations or suggestions that don't feel right or lack substance. Your best path forward is to trust in your abilities and use your skills to your benefit. Don't allow others to take care of your responsibilities. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Take a timeout, and adjust your budget to fit your lifestyle. Rearranging how you delegate funds will encourage you to set your priorities straight and enjoy what life has to offer. Love, romance and personal gain are favored. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Be honest with yourself and others. Having a realistic plan in place will help you bring about positive changes to how you live and do things moving forward. Call on those who offer encouragement and hands-on help. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intense, energetic and persuasive. You are changeable and empathetic.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7		6			4		
4		1	2		8	6		
	6			4			5	3
6	8				5		2	
		9		1		5		
	3		8				6	7
5	9			7			8	
		4	5		1	3		6
		3			2		4	

Difficulty Level ★ 10/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

1	7	4	2	6	5	8	9	3
5	8	6	9	3	1	7	2	4
3	9	2	8	4	7	6	5	1
2	5	1	7	8	4	3	6	9
6	4	9	1	5	3	2	8	7
7	3	8	6	2	9	1	4	5
8	1	5	3	9	6	4	7	2
4	2	3	5	7	8	9	1	6
9	6	7	4	1	2	5	3	8

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

MELAMINE **Solution: 12 letters**

A	D	M	I	X	T	U	R	E	P	O	T	S	E	H
Y	D	U	L	R	O	C	E	D	D	U	E	L	S	S
T	I	H	R	W	C	O	U	R	T	T	D	N	P	A
H	L	R	E	E	O	R	E	E	A	N	I	U	K	F
E	O	O	A	S	A	B	N	L	A	S	C	O	C	E
R	S	S	L	B	I	S	P	H	E	N	O	L	V	W
M	U	(H)	L	F	I	V	R	R	A	C	U	E	H	R
O	B	E	(E)	L	O	E	E	D	G	E	N	I	E	N
S	S	L	N	(A)	P	A	R	S	B	E	T	T	C	E
E	T	V	S	A	(T)	E	M	S	E	E	E	O	I	G
T	R	I	P	O	M	O	H	R	D	R	R	X	N	O
T	A	N	I	I	L	E	A	N	C	O	T	I	A	R
I	T	G	R	D	E	U	L	N	L	O	O	C	G	T
N	E	T	T	T	Q	B	O	A	T	S	P	W	R	I
G	L	O	S	S	S	C	K	C	I	T	S	N	O	N

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Adhesives, Admixture, Bisphenol, Boats, Bowl, Concrete, Cook, Cool, Countertops, Court, Cups, Décor, Durable, Edge, Enamel, Fiber, Foam, Gloss, Handle, Heat, Mold, Nitrogen, Nonstick, Organic, Paper, Plates, Pots, Real, Resins, Safe, Sheets, Shelving, Solid, Square, Strips, Substrate, Thermosetting, Toxic, Trimer, Urea, Utensil, Veneer, White, Wood

Last Friday's Answer: Swimming

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

Atlanta beats LA 4-2, heads to World Series

ATLANTA (AP)—Led by an unlikely hero, the Atlanta Braves are heading back to a place that used to be so familiar to them.

The World Series.

Eddie Rosario capped a remarkable NL Championship Series with a three-run homer, sending the Braves to the biggest stage of all with a 4-2 victory over the defending champion Los Angeles Dodgers on Saturday night.

The Braves won the best-of-seven playoff four games to two, exorcising the demons of last year's NLCS — when Atlanta squandered 2-0 and 3-1 leads against the Dodgers — and advancing to face the AL champion Astros.

Game 1 is Tuesday night at Minute Maid Park in Houston.

"It's a great moment in my life," Rosario said through an interpreter. "But I want more. I want to win the World Series."

The Braves were Series regulars in the 1990s, winning it all in '95 with a team that included Hall of Famers Greg Maddux, Tom Glavine, John Smoltz and Chipper Jones.

That remains their only title in Atlanta. The Braves lost the Series four other times during that decade, a run of postseason disappointment that marred a momentous streak that grew to 14 straight division titles.

After getting swept in the 1999 World Series by the Yankees, the Braves couldn't even get that far in the postseason.

Twenty-two years of frustration, 12 playoff appearances that fell short of a pennant.

Finally, it's over.

"We actually did it," said longtime first baseman Freddie Freeman, sounding a bit bewildered.

Rosario was acquired in a flurry of deals just before the July 30 trade deadline that rebuilt the Braves' depleted outfield, which lost Ronald Acuña Jr. to a season-ending knee injury and slugger Marcell Ozuna to a hand injury and legal troubles.

They weren't missed at all in the NLCS.

"Anything that was thrown at us," Freeman said, "we were able to overcome it."

AP

Atlanta Braves' Eddie Rosario (8) celebrates after hitting a three run home run during the fourth inning in Game 6 of baseball's National League Championship Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021, in Atlanta.

Rosario set an Atlanta record and became only the fifth player in baseball history to get 14 hits in a postseason series. He was an easy choice as MVP of the series.

Spurred on by chants of "Eddie! Eddie! Eddie" from the raucous sellout crowd of more than 43,000, Rosario finished 14 of 25 (.560) against the Dodgers, with three homers and nine RBIs.

"We just couldn't figure him out," Los Angeles manager Dave Roberts said.

Will Smith worked a perfect ninth for his fourth save of the postseason after a brilliant relief stint by winner Tyler Matzek, who escaped a huge jam in the seventh by striking out the side.

Rosario's final hit was certainly the biggest of the 30-year-old Puerto Rican's career.

With the score tied at 1 in the bottom of the fourth, Rosario came up after pinch-hitter Ehire Adrianza extended the inning with a two-out double into the right-field corner. Slow-running catcher Travis d'Arnaud was held at third by coach Ron Washington, surely aware of who was up next.

Rosario got into an extended duel with Walker Buehler, who stepped up to start on three days' rest after ace Max Scherzer wasn't able to go because of a tired arm.

Rosario swung and missed the first two pitches. Then he fouled one off. Then he took a ball. Then he fouled off two more pitches.

Finally, he got one he liked from the Dodgers' 16-game winner — a cutter that Rosario turned into a 105 mph rocket down the right-field line, higher and higher, straight as an arrow until it landed well back into the seats below the Chop House restaurant.

"We got him 0-2 and just couldn't put him away," Roberts said.

Rosario knew it was gone, dancing down the line after delivering a 361-foot finishing shot to a highly paid team that won 106 games during the regular season — 18 more than the NL East-winning Braves — but came up short in its bid to become baseball's first repeat champion since the 2000 New York Yankees won their third straight title.

"We had a tremendous season," Roberts said. "We were two wins away from going to the World Series. I want the guys to be proud of that."

The Braves will be looking to bury their city's reputation for postseason misery across a wide range of sports.

From four World Series losses in the 1990s to the NFL Falcons blowing a 28-3 lead in the 2017 Super Bowl, Atlanta again finds itself on the cusp of an extremely rare feat.

The '95 Braves remain the city's lone team in the four major sports — baseball, football, basketball and hockey — to capture a title. Freeman said after a Game 5 loss that the city's history would remain an issue "until we kill that narrative."

They're four wins from doing just that.

Braves manager Brian Snitker will see a familiar face in the opposite dugout during the World Series.

His son.

Troy Snitker is the hitting coach for the Astros.

"The Snitker family is going to have a World Series trophy in our house," Brian Snitker said. "I don't know who's going to have it, but we're going to have one."

Red Sox run out of fight, fall to Astros in ALCS Game 6

HOUSTON (AP)—Backs against the wall — occasionally by their own doing — these Boston Red Sox proved hard to pin down.

The Houston Astros finally got them for good Friday night.

Boston's bats went quiet for the third straight game and the Red Sox bowed out of the AL Championship Series with a punchless 5-0 loss to the Astros in Game 6.

They had just two hits Friday, baffled by starter Luis García and a quartet of relievers, and combined for just three runs and 10 hits over the final three games of the series.

The wild-card Red Sox arrived in Houston needing consecutive victories to avoid elimination and keep alive their pursuit of another World Series title after winning in 2018.

"We don't quit," catcher Christian Vázquez vowed.

Instead, they barely showed up.

Such a muted dismissal hardly fit with the rest of the team's season. This was a club with a knack for exceeding expectations—even when they were the ones undercutting their own chances.

Boston was hardly projected as an October favorite entering the year. Manager Alex Cora was fired prior to the 2020 season for his involvement in Houston's 2017 cheating scandal, and Mookie Betts was salary dumped to the Dodgers a month later. No surprise, then, when Boston sank to last place in the AL East in 2020.

Even with Cora rehired in November, little better was expected this spring. Instead, the Red Sox emerged rejuvenated and ready to challenge for a postseason spot, leading the division for much of the first half behind resurgent stars Xander Bogaerts and Rafael Devers, plus free-agent acquisition Kiké Hernández.

Nathan Eovaldi emerged as a Cy Young Award contender, Eduardo Rodriguez rebounded from a COVID-related heart illness that kept him out of 2020, and ace Chris Sale was expected back in the second half after two years gone following Tommy John surgery.

A COVID-19 outbreak in the clubhouse threatened to derail that rolling start.

Just six teams failed to reach MLB's 85% vaccination threshold for relaxing safety protocols, and the Red Sox were one of them. So when the virus began to spread around the clubhouse in late August, it led to a dozen players and two support staffers being sidelined after positive tests.

Those forced out of action included Hernández, Bogaerts and Sale. The team slumped and nearly fell out of the playoff picture, but a seven-game winning streak in mid-September rekindled its wild-card charge. Boston won four of its final five games to clinch a postseason berth on the last day of the regular season.

Suddenly, the Sox were unstoppable.

Boston throttled Yankees ace Gerrit Cole to win the wild-card game, batted .341 as a team while pounding the top-seeded Rays 3-1 in the Division Series, and began a similar clobbering of Houston in the ALCS by winning Games 2 and 3 by a combined 21-8.

"We just got beat at the end, but when we look back and everything that we went through, the thoughts of this team early in the season, it's just amazing," Cora said. "It was a great year."

The October-tested Astros got their pitching in order and began stifling the red-hot Sox in Game 4. Boston dropped that one 9-2, lost 9-1 a day later and fell into a 3-2 series hole heading to Houston for Game 6.

"We've had our backs against the wall all year long," Hernández said Friday afternoon. "We've been battling, we've been grinding all year long, and we didn't get to this point to go out without a battle."

The fight never came.

For the second straight game, they were held hitless through four innings, this time by García, who didn't allow a knock until Hernández's triple with two outs in the sixth.

Starter Nathan Eovaldi kept it close. The AL Cy Young Award contender threw 4 1/3 effective innings, including a gutsy fourth when he struck out two with runners at second and third, then got an inning-ending punchout of Chas McCormick after an intentional walk of Yuli Gurriel loaded the bases.

"No one expected us to be here," Eovaldi said. "We proved a lot of people wrong."

The bullpen kept things close, but the offense never broke through.

The best chance came in the seventh, when Boston put runners at the corners with one out, trailing 2-0. Pinch-hitter Travis Shaw struck out swinging, dropping Boston to 1 for 19 with runners in scoring position for the series. On the same pitch, catcher Martín Maldonado nabbed Alex Verdugo trying to steal second.

Verdugo's lead off first was too short, and his jump so-so. An unforced error that took the sails out of Boston's last best chance to stretch its season.

"I just bet on my players," Cora said, noting that Maldonado delivered the ball to second in 1.4 seconds, below his average of around 1.9. "it just mattered that their catcher just came out shooting and he made a perfect throw."

Boston went down in order in the eighth, and Houston's Kyle Tucker hit a three-run homer in the bottom half.

When Bogaerts flied out to left for the final out in the ninth, the club watched mostly motionless from the dugout as Houston began its celebration.

"We had bigger goals," Cora said. "But to be honest with you, I'm very proud of the group."

The next hurdle: flushing away the hurt from this one and coming back with a little more fight in 2022.

"We got a lot of things to look forward to," Eovaldi said. "And I think having this bitter taste in our mouth is going to be good motivation again for next year coming forward."

Doncic leads Mavericks to win at Toronto

TORONTO (AP)—Luka Doncic had 27 points, 12 assists and nine rebounds, narrowly missing his 37th career triple-double, Kristaps Porzingis had 18 points and 10 rebounds, and the Dallas Mavericks rallied from an early 14-point deficit to beat the Toronto Raptors 103-95 Saturday night.

Tim Hardaway Jr. scored 13 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter and Dwight Powell and Dorian Finney-Smith each had 11 as Dallas bounced back from Thursday's season-opening loss at Atlanta.

OG Anunoby scored 23 points for the Raptors, who were playing the second game of a back-to-back. Toronto won 115-83 at Boston Friday.

Fred VanVleet scored 20 points and Scottie Barnes had 17. Precious Achiuwa had 10 points and 12 rebounds and Gary Trent Jr. scored 12 points.

AP

Toronto Raptors guard Fred VanVleet (23) has his shot attempt blocked by Dallas Mavericks center Kristaps Porzingis (6) as Jalen Brunson (13) defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game Saturday, Oct. 23, 2021, in Toronto.

Pacers 102, Heat 91, OT

In Indianapolis, Oshae Brissett scored 18 points, including the go-ahead inside basket in overtime, as the Pacers outlasted the Heat.

The teams traded baskets to start overtime, then Brissett scored off an offensive rebound to provide a 90-88 lead and start a 9-0 run.

Rookie guard Chris Duarte led the Pacers with 19 points. Point guard Malcolm Brogdon had 18 points and 15 assists.

The Pacers bounced back after opening the season with a pair of one-point road losses including in overtime defeat at Washington on Thursday.

Tyler Herro led all scorers with 30 points and also grabbed 10 rebounds.

Cavaliers 101, Hawks 95

In Cleveland, rookie Evan Mobley had 17 points and 11 rebounds to help the Cavaliers rally for their first win of the season, beating the Hawks.

Ricky Rubio had 23 points and eight assists, and Jarrett Allen added 11 points and 14 rebounds for Cleveland, which trailed by 13 points in the second quarter. The Cavaliers had lost their first two games, both by 11.

Mobley, the No. 3 overall selection from USC, scored seven points during a 21-0 run that put Cleveland ahead 67-58 in the third. Atlanta went scoreless for 4:28 after Trae Young made a layup with 46 seconds left in the second quarter.

Young paced the Hawks with 24 points and seven assists.

Bulls 97, Pistons 82

In Chicago, DeMar DeRozan scored 21 points, Nikola Vucevic added 15 points and 18 rebounds and the Bulls beat the Pistons.

DeRozan put an exclamation point on his night, finishing a thunderous third quarter dunk despite getting hit in the face by Pistons guard Hamidou Diallo. His efforts helped give the Bulls their first 3-0 start to a season since 2016.

Saddiq Bey led the way for Detroit with 20 points and 16 rebounds.

Timberwolves 96, Pelicans 89

In Minneapolis, Karl-Anthony Towns scored 15 of his 25 points for Minnesota in the first quarter, before fouling out in frustration and being forced to watch the Timberwolves hang on for a victory over the Pelicans.

Anthony Edwards had 14 of his 19 points in the first half for the undefeated Timberwolves, who leaned on their defense and forced a franchise-record-tying 30 turnovers by the Pelicans.

Brandon Ingram scored 30 points—with seven turnovers —and center Jonas Valanciunas had best game with his new team with 20 points and 17 rebounds. The Zion Williamson-less and winless Pelicans shot just 9 for 40 from 3-point range. Nickeil Alexander-Walker was 2 for 13 from deep and 6 for 24 overall, grabbing 14 rebounds to go with 14 points.

Bucks 121, Spurs 111

In San Antonio, Khris Middleton scored 28 points, Giannis Antetokounmpo added 21 and the Bucks held on to beat the Spurs.

Doug McDermott scored 25 points and Keldon Johnson added 20 for San Antonio, which lost its second straight after a season-opening victory at home over Orlando.

The Bucks deflected several runs by the Spurs in securing their second double-digit victory. Every Milwaukee starter scored in double figures, and George Hill added 15 points off the bench.

Hill and Jordan Nwora gave the Bucks a needed lift off the bench, while Jrue Holiday and Grayson Allen sat. Nwora finished with seven points, six rebounds, two blocks and an assist in 21 minutes.

Trail Bblazers 134, Suns 105

In Portland, Ore., CJ McCollum scored 28 points to lead the Trail Blazers to a victory over the Suns.

McCollum's hot shooting set the pace for the Blazers to their first win of the season. Damian Lillard finished with 19 points and eight assists, while Anfernee Simons pitched in 18 points off the bench.

Devin Booker led the Suns with 21 points in the loss.

Grizzlies 120, Clippers 114

In Los Angeles, Ja Morant led five starters in double figures with 28 points and the Grizzlies defeated the Clippers.

Morant burned Cleveland for 37 points—second-most in franchise history in a season opener— n the Grizzlies' 11-point win. He came back strong to open a four-game West Coast trip in which the Grizzlies face three playoff teams from last season.

The Clippers twice got within two points in the final 1:14 on baskets by Paul George, who finished with 41 points and 10 rebounds.

But Jaren Jackson Jr. answered with a 3-pointer that kept the Grizzlies in front 119-114 with 17 seconds to go.

George missed a 25-footer and Luke Kennard fouled Desmond Bane, who made 1 of 2 free throws. George missed again from the left side as the Clippers fell to 0-2 to start the season.

The top 75 — plus 1 — players in NBA history are revealed

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

AP

Sacramento Kings guard De'Aaron Fox (5) guards Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James (6) during the second half of a preseason NBA basketball game in Sacramento, Calif., Thursday, Oct. 14, 2021.

For the NBA's 75th anniversary team, 75 players weren't enough.

The league needed 76 instead.

The top 75 players in NBA history—and one more because of a tie in the voting—have been revealed, a group that has combined to win 158 NBA championships, earn 730 NBA All-Star selections and score more than 1.5 million points.

The players were not ranked in order, and were announced over a three-day span randomly. And the league didn't say which players wound up in that tie to determine the final spot.

All 50 of the Top 50 players—chosen 25 years ago, during the NBA's 50th anniversary celebration — made the Top 75 list as well, a clear indicator that the voters for this team respected the intentions of the selectors a quarter-century ago.

Of the new names on the list, nine were announced during the first two rounds of unveilings Tuesday and Wednesday: Giannis Antetokounmpo, Tim Duncan, Kevin Durant, Kevin Garnett, James Harden, Allen Iverson, Steve Nash, Dirk Nowitzki and Chris Paul.

The other newcomers were all announced Thursday, with a few obvious picks coming along with a few surprises. Dominique Wilkins was a notable omission from the 50th anniversary team but made the 75th anniversary team.

"It took me a while to get over it," Wilkins said of the snub a quarter-century ago.

He doesn't have to worry about it anymore.

Nor does Bob McAdoo, another player who didn't make the Top 50 list 25 years ago but got enough votes to make the Top 75.

"A legend on and off the court," read a statement from the Miami Heat, commemorating McAdoo's selection.

The other newcomers to the list, all announced Thursday: Dennis Rodman, Ray Allen, Dwyane Wade, Jason Kidd, Kobe Bryant, Gary Payton, Paul Pierce, Stephen Curry, Reggie Miller, Kawhi Leonard, Damian Lillard, LeBron James, Carmelo Anthony, Anthony Davis and Russell Westbrook.

"I just got chills. I don't want to be cool and act like this doesn't mean anything. ... It's surreal," Wade said on the Turner Sports telecast of Thursday's announcement. "It doesn't even feel real to look at yourself and say 'I'm one of the best 75 players ever to play this game.'"

Kidd had a similar reaction, after being told in a pregame interview before the team he now coaches—the Dallas Mavericks—opened their season against the Atlanta Hawks.

"One, I'm surprised," Kidd said. "Two, it's a surreal moment, right? Seventy-five years, to be mentioned with that list, there's a lot of great names. I'm just happy they found a way to put my name on that list."

Keenum, 3rd-string back Johnson lead Browns past Broncos

CLEVELAND (AP)— Baker Mayfield had the best seat in the house to watch the Browns' backups deliver.

Case Keenum stepped in for an injured Mayfield and made the most of his first start in two years, third-string back D'Ernest Johnson rushed for 146 yards and Cleveland overcame a short week and a long list of injuries to beat the Denver Broncos 17-14 on Thursday night.

Keenum didn't put up impressive stats (21 of 33 for 199 yards), but threw a touchdown pass and did enough — as did Cleveland's maligned defense — to get the Browns (4-3) a much-needed victory.

They survived without Mayfield, who sat out with a shoulder injury and could miss more time.

"Unfortunately, some people are going to get hurt," Keenum said after his first win since 2019. "At the same time, you love other young guys getting chances."

Johnson, playing because stars Nick Chubb and Kareem Hunt were both out with calf injuries, had the best game of his young career. He scored on a 4-yard run in the first half and picked up 52 yards on seven carries as the Browns chewed up the final 5:17 after the Broncos pulled within three.

Once he reached the end zone, Johnson wasn't sure how to react.

"It's unexplainable," he said. "I wanted to celebrate but I didn't know what to do. It's been a long journey."

The Broncos couldn't stop Johnson and now they can't stop losing, either.

"The last drive was very frustrating," Denver coach Vic Fangio said. "We loaded up against the run and we couldn't stop them."

Afterward, Johnson, who worked on a fishing boat when he wasn't drafted, got doused with water by his teammates in a raucous locker room celebration.

AP

Cleveland Browns quarterback Case Keenum (5) hands the ball off to running back D'Ernest Johnson (30) during the second half of the team's NFL football game against the Denver Broncos, Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021, in Cleveland.

Johnson couldn't believe that NBA superstar LeBron James tweeted about him in the game's final minutes.

"LeBron?" he said. "Man, that's my favorite basketball player. LeBron? That's amazing. That means a lot. Wow!"

Denver quarterback Teddy Bridgewater threw a pair of TD passes and gutted it out while playing with foot and quadriceps injuries. He finished 23 of 33 for 187 yards with one interception.

The Broncos (3-4) dropped their fourth straight game, and maybe as importantly, lost star linebacker Von Miller to a sprained ankle. The eight-time Pro Bowler missed all of 2020 with a dislodged ankle tendon.

Miller got hurt late in the first half when he banged legs with teammate Dre'Mont Jones while rushing Keenum.

Mayfield, who has been playing with a torn labrum, also has a broken bone in his non-throwing shoulder but believes he can continue to play with it, a person familiar with the quarterback's health told the Associated Press.

Mayfield hopes the injury improves enough in coming days days that he can play against Pittsburgh on Oct. 31, said the person who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the situation.

The fourth-year QB revealed the break in his humerus bone—which runs from his shoulder to elbow—to Fox during the network's pregame show.

Browns coach Kevin Stefanski did not get into any specifics about Mayfield's injury, but said it was "too far away" to know if the QB will be back next week.

Until he's ready, Keenum showed he can keep the Browns going forward.

So did Johnson, an unlikely hero.

"A guy like him, who the locker room loves and everybody loves— great young family and just a good overall person," Keenum said. "To come in here and having an incredible night like that and make some big time plays for us on a national stage, very pumped for him. It was exciting."

After Bridgewater's 8-yard TD pass to Melvin Gordon brought the Broncos within 10-7 in the third quarter, Keenum directed a 13-play, 75-yard drive he capped with a 1-yard scoring pass to fullback Johnny Stanton IV.

Keenum made the biggest play on the drive, converting a fourth-and-3 play with a 5-yard scramble to Denver's 1.

5K

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race at Lao Lao Bay and help clean up our precious beach. The main objective is to highlight Lao Lao Bay and how beautiful it is and to do our part to clean it up," said Dela Cruz.

And for those wanting to celebrate Halloween early, Run Saipan said runners can run the course in their favorite costumes. "Come in costume or wear Halloween orange for a head start in the race!"

For more information on Run Saipan's 5K Dash & Splash, contact 670 287-0891 or email runsaipan@gmail.com. To register, go to https://bit.ly/3iTxL5i.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	2	0	1.000	—
Brooklyn	1	1	.500	1
Philadelphia	1	1	.500	1
Toronto	1	2	.333	1½
Boston	0	2	.000	2

Southeast Division

Washington	2	0	1.000	—
Charlotte	2	0	1.000	—
Miami	1	1	.500	1
Atlanta	1	1	.500	1
Orlando	0	2	.000	2

Central Division

Chicago	3	0	1.000	—
Milwaukee	2	1	.667	1
Cleveland	1	2	.333	2
Indiana	1	2	.333	2
Detroit	0	2	.000	2½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Memphis	2	0	1.000	—
Houston	1	1	.500	1
Dallas	1	1	.500	1
San Antonio	1	2	.333	1½
New Orleans	0	3	.000	2½

Northwest Division

Utah	2	0	1.000	—
Minnesota	2	0	1.000	—
Denver	2	0	1.000	—
Portland	1	1	.500	1
Oklahoma City	0	2	.000	2

Pacific Division

Golden State	2	0	1.000	—
Sacramento	1	1	.500	1
Phoenix	1	2	.333	1½
L.A. Clippers	0	2	.000	2
L.A. Lakers	0	2	.000	2

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	4	2	0	.667	203	98
New England	2	4	0	.333	125	127
N.Y. Jets	1	4	0	.200	67	121
Miami	1	5	0	.167	99	177

South

Tennessee	4	2	0	.667	166	161
Indianapolis	2	4	0	.333	139	131
Houston	1	5	0	.167	92	172
Jacksonville	1	5	0	.167	116	172

North

Baltimore	5	1	0	.833	170	123
Cincinnati	4	2	0	.667	148	111
Cleveland	4	3	0	.571	173	165
Pittsburgh	3	3	0	.500	117	132

West

L.A. Chargers	4	2	0	.667	148	150
Las Vegas	4	2	0	.667	147	144
Kansas City	3	3	0	.500	185	176
Denver	3	4	0	.429	140	127

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Dallas	5	1	0	.833	205	146
Philadelphia	2	4	0	.333	137	152
Washington	2	4	0	.333	136	186
N.Y. Giants	1	5	0	.167	114	177

South

Tampa Bay	5	1	0	.833	195	144
New Orleans	3	2	0	.600	127	91
Carolina	3	3	0	.500	143	121
Atlanta	2	3	0	.400	105	148

North

Green Bay	5	1	0	.833	144	136
Chicago	3	3	0	.500	98	124
Minnesota	3	3	0	.500	147	137
Detroit	0	6	0	.000	109	172

West

Arizona	6	0	0	1.000	194	109
L.A. Rams	5	1	0	.833	179	127
San Francisco	2	3	0	.400	117	119
Seattle	2	4	0	.333	140	149

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TINIAN

From Page 20

against five Saipan squads.

Tinian made it to the Final Four both in the women's and men's with the latter nearly advancing to the finals if not for an overtime loss to Babeholics, 17-19.

Tinian's men's squad had its first game against The Game and coasted to a 21-1 victory behind the 10 points of Walker. Tinian next met the Outlaws and eked out a 17-16 victory to secure a playoff spot.

Tinian was in Bracket C in the pool play and ended the eliminations with a 2-1 record as it dropped its last match against eventual champion The End Game, 13-19.

In the women's division, Tinian opened with a 21-13 win over the Crushers before being nosed out by Shammii in the second match, 5-4. Tinian then closed out the elimination with a 9-7 triumph over Alley Oops to reach the Final Four. In the boys U18, Tinian recorded its lone victory in the tournament against the Sixers, 19-6.

Tinian Typhoon coach Keith Nabors said all their teams had a good experience playing against Saipan squads and they hope to have more opportunities to join competitions in the future. He added that he wishes to see Saipan and Rota teams coming down to Tinian when it's their turn to host a tournament. Nabors also acknowledged groups and individuals who helped Tinian send teams to the NMIBF 3x3 Hoop Fest.

"Our trip would not have been possible without the help of Tinian Mayor Edwin Aldan. Special thanks also go to Senator Karl King-Nabors and the Tinian Legislative Delegation and the DCCA's Division of Youth Services," the Tinian coach added.

"Thank you to NMIBF for hosting this wonderful tournament and extending the invitation to our Tinian teams, and thank you to the Tan Siu Lin Foundation for providing the jerseys to our boys U18 team," Keith Nabors said. "See you all in the next competition." ***(PR)***

LEAD

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Kanoa's four goals in the first half, which ended in a deadlock. Kristelle Itaas tallied the other goal for Kanoa in the first 30 minutes of the game, while Casarino had her pair in the opening half and Wally and Angeles logged one apiece.

Wally got her second in the 40th minute to break the tie, but Pagarao answered two minutes later to force another standoff. Pagarao then gave the lead back to Kanoa with her goal in the 53rd minute before Chavez came to TanHoldings' rescue and stole the win.

Meanwhile, Shirley's got its first victory of the season after easing past Paire in the other game last Wednesday, 4-1.

Fiona Bucalig had twin goals for Shirley's, which drew one apiece from Melody Johnson and Jeraldine Castillo. Mae Ito handed Paire its lone goal in the match.

Games in the Premier Division will resume this Wednesday with Kanoa taking on Paire on Court A, and TanHoldings colliding with Shirley's on Court B.

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION

Paire-1 5, Paire-2 1

Paire-1 moved on top of the standings in the eight-team field after dominating sister squad Paire-2 in Week 2 action.

Lily Muldoon and Natalie Hill-Beyer scored two goals apiece to lift Paire-1 to the easy win, while Patty Coleman chipped in one. Paire-2's only goal in the match was courtesy of Robyn Spaeth.

Southern United 4, Paire-3 0

Southern United broke into the win column after shutting down Paire-3.

Keisha Deleon Guerrero registered two goals, while Reanna Ramarui and Erin Frink contributed one each for the winning squad.

Kanoa 1, Matansa 0

Kanoa also notched victory No. 1 after edging Matansa.

Marie Aldan made the game-winner in the 3rd minute of the match allowing Kanoa to quickly recover from a 0-2 loss to Paire-2 in Week 1.

MP United 2, Shirley's 2

Shirley's got its second draw in as many games, thanks to a late goal from Friendly Joy Peña.

Peña made it to the board with less than five minutes left in the game to help Shirley's force a draw against MP United.

MP United took a 2-0 lead in the first half behind the goals of Breanna Copeland and Julia Ishikawa. However, Shirley's fought back with Mikky Vargas scoring in the 28 the minute and Pena delivering the equalizer in the 45th.

With back-to-back draws, Shirley's was hoping to gain its first win of the season yesterday when it was scheduled to duel Matansa in Week 3 of the league. Three more matches were slated last Sunday with Paire-2 meeting Southern United; Paire-1 battling MP United; and Kanoa challenging Paire-3.

Atlanta beats LA 4-2, heads to World Series

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Keenum, 3rd-string back Johnson lead Browns past Broncos

PAGE 19

TanHoldings steals win for early lead

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kaithlynn Chavez knocked in back-to-back goals late in the game to help TanHoldings Football Club escape past Kanoa Football Club, 7-6, in the Premier Division of the Dove Women's Fall League 2021 last Wednesday night at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

Behind at 5-6 with seven minutes left in the 60-minute match and after Kanoa's Irish Pagarao delivered two straight goals, TanHoldings banked on Chavez's heroics down the stretch to pull off a nail-biter. Chavez, who was without a goal in the first half and continued to be frustrated by Kanoa's defense in the majority of the second half, finally scored around the last three-minute mark of the match to knot the count, 6-6. The Saipan International School student then came up with the game-winner with a little over one minute left in the closely fought contest to complete the come-from-behind victory for TanHoldings.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TanHoldings Football Club's Kaithlynn Chavez, second left, seen here surrounded by Paire FC defenders in Week 1 of the Dove Women's Fall League 2021, scored two late goals to lift her team to a 7-6 win over Kanoa FC last Wednesday night at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville

Chavez and company got win No. 2 in as many games for the early lead in the division, while Kanoa dropped to a 1-0-1 win-draw-loss mark for a share of second place with Shirley's.

Before Chavez's game-saver, Britanny Wally and Jannah Casarino made two goals apiece and Allyssya Angeles had one to help TanHoldings keep up with Kanoa, which relied heavily on Pagarao. The Kanoa striker hit three of

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5K Dash & Splash on Oct. 30

MARK RABAGO

Taro Goto in action during Run Saipan's "Stairway to Heaven" race from the Last Command Post to Suicide Cliff in Marpi held last August.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Run Saipan added a twist to its next monthly underground run by incorporating a water element to its 5K Dash & Splash event on Oct. 30 at the East Bay of Lao Lao Bay.

The 5K run starts at 6am and actually was originally planned in 2018, according to Run Saipan president Edward Dela Cruz Jr.

"The Lao Lao Bay race was going to happen with Oceania Athletics Association president Robin Sapong in 2018, but Super Typhoon Yutu kicked the plan back. We are reviving the race project now," he said.

Dela Cruz said they added the water element in the run in honor of Athletics Run Jump And Throw.

"Runners will still run the course (dash) and at the finish line they can either jump into the water off of East Bay (splash) or those do not wish to dive off they will have an item to throw into the bay at a target (throw) to complete their race time. It's holiday season around the corner and we just wanted our runners to have a fun run with a stunning trail race," he said.

After the 5K Dash & Splash, participants are encouraged to take part in a beach cleanup.

"It was all Dr. Ron's (Run Saipan secretary and treasurer Ron Snyder) idea for the finish line. This event is also a beach cleanup. So please stay back with us after the

See 5K on Page 19

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian Typhoon coach Keith Nabors, second row center, poses with their boys U18 and women's open division players as they wait for their game in Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation 3x3 Hoop Fest held last Oct. 16 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Tinian Typhoon thanks sponsors for 3x3 hoops stint

Tinian was well represented in the Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation 3x3 Hoop Fest, as the Typhoon fielded three teams in the competition held last Oct. 16 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Colleen Cing, Isa Reyes, Lana King, and Anissa Dela Cruz suited up for Tinian in the women's open division, while the island's men's crew was made up of Develle Maui, Marc Babauta, Wesley Walker, and Sir Dela Cruz. The visiting team also had an entry in the boys U18 division contest with Jose Manglona, Tano King II, Collin Dela Cruz, and Keith Nabors Jr. battling the age group title

See TINIAN on Page 19

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian's Sir Dela Cruz takes an off-balanced shot, while his teammates look on during their match against The Game in Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation 3x3 Hoop Fest held last Oct. 16 at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.